

# SALTASH AND DISTRICT OBSERVER

Your only truly "local" newspaper ...

August 2016 - Issue 293

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## Station Building Purchase Planned as Public Asset to Saltash



**S**altash station building, long a shabby disgrace to the town should be 'taken back into public ownership and made into the building that we think it should be'. This proposal to finally resolve the issue of the decaying and weed covered building that greets rail passengers into Cornwall was put to the Town Council by Councillor Richard Bickford and approved in principal by eight Councillors, with two abstentions and none against.

The building had formerly been owned by the Town Council who had plans to develop it as a Brunel Heritage Centre. However it proved difficult to put the required funding together and eventually the town sold off the property to a private developer and returned to Caradon Council money given to purchase it.

Since then it has changed hands but remained in private ownership and while there had been proposals to turn it into office or residential accommodation none had gone forward. Meanwhile the late Victorian building had deteriorated to become an acknowledged public eyesore.

The Town Council has now agreed to obtain two valuations, explore funding options, and then make the current owner an offer,

available for a limited period only. If the offer is not accepted a compulsory purchase order proposal would be prepared, though this could be a long process with no guarantee as to the outcome.

Should the Town Council be successful in acquiring the building a great deal of money would have to be spent in renovating it to an acceptable standard. However there are a number of sources for such funding, Councillor Bickford advised, including the Great Western Railway's Customer and Community Fund to whom he had already made a 'holding' application. He was highly hopeful that monies would be forthcoming to make the building, which is immediately adjacent to the main railway line, an attractive asset to the town, appreciated by rail passengers. It would also encourage them to alight at Saltash, where an increase in stopping service is planned, and to visit the station and the town.

Plans for the building include a new canopy, a waiting area, toilets and a cafe with an outlook over the world famous Royal Albert Bridge. There would also be a Brunel Great Western Railway themed collection of exhibits and general railwayana.

Also under consideration is a meeting room for public hire and the raising of the roof to include office space which could be a useful source of revenue to the town.

A number of members of the public who have long been advocating turning the station building from an eyesore into an attractive asset to Saltash attended the Town Council meeting and declared themselves well satisfied with the outcome.

## Clock Will be Corrected in Time

**T**he Town's Jubilee Clock is a valuable and much appreciated asset to Saltash but has been telling incorrect time for the last three months, a Fore Street trader has complained to the Town Council.

He urged that the council spend money on 'real' improvements to Fore Street, including repairing the clock, and not on 'one off' events such as a proposed 'Snowflake Trail' intended to encourage children and their parents on a treasure hunt around Saltash at Christmas time.

A contract is now in place and the clock will shortly be repaired and kept in order, he was reassured. The 'Snowflake Trail' which would involve a large illuminated snowflake as part of the town's decorations, and smaller snowflakes purchased by traders in participating

shops, had been approved by Saltash Town Improvement Group but the Town Council had deferred a decision on it following criticism of its costs.

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has changed email  
address

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inconvenience

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## Chamber Chairman Peter Ryland Keeping us Updated

People often say to me that there is "nothing much happening in South East Cornwall", how wrong they are. Last month I attended the South East Cornwall Workshop. There were representatives from Saltash, Looe, Torpoint and Liskeard both at Town and County Council level but also from the private sector (Chambers and private business). There were five specific areas under discussion workspace /employment land, skills, tourism, A38 and better links for Plymouth.

Under workspace/employment land we discussed the need to ensure that land allocated for such use is subsequently used for it and that units to be built thereon suit the requirements that occupiers require.

However, one of the worries for the area is the lack of a skilled workforce and looking at ways to ensure that skill levels are improved.

We recognised that tourism is important to the local economy but we need to find ways to extend the tourism season and the heritage of the area was seen as means to do so. We do not have the major

attractions of other areas of Cornwall, Tate Cornwall in St. Ives and Eden Project are good examples, but we do have a strong heritage and should use this to attract tourists at, otherwise, less popular times of the year.

It was recognised that Plymouth is the main player with respect to employment and we looked at ways to try and have stronger links therewith so that we can benefit from the potential opportunities that Plymouth creates.

Since 1978, at least, the dualling of the A38 between Saltash and Trerulefoot has

been under discussion and a recent delegation to the Department of Transport re-highlighted this issue. But there are other concerns namely the poor junctions onto the A38 at Menheniot, Lean Quarry and Bodmin Parkway for example. The other issue is the chaos created in country roads when accidents occur as there are no easy diversions

All delegates were hopeful that we can achieve some short term fines in the various areas under discussion but more importantly it was felt that by pursuing matters as South East Cornwall rather than the individual communities therein we could achieve long term goals. This could have been another talking shop but there was emphatic belief that improvements can be made.

## Stop Feeding Seagulls

Seagulls are a growing menace in Saltash and the problem is exacerbated by those who put out food for them.

The birds create noise and mess, especially on the days when rubbish is put out for collection. They can also be threatening and attack those walking past where they have nest with young birds.

The growing problem was put to Saltash Town Council during public question time and Councillors agreed as to discouraging those who put out food for these birds.

They also urged residents not to put out their rubbish until the morning it is due to be collected. 'If you know of people who put their rubbish out early, this is a fly-tipping offence and they should be reported to the Town Council with a view to prosecution', a County Councillor informed the public.

There are special supposedly 'Seagull proof' rubbish bags on sale at the Cornwall Council One Stop Shop in the library. However some Councillors said that they do not work and the birds tear them open.

Putting disinfectant on the top of rubbish bags is an effective deterrent, one member of the public advised.

## School Crossing Patrols

School Crossing Patrol sites are reviewed from time to time using the national guidance set out by Road Safety GB and any local amendments approved by Cornwall Council. A number of sites have been identified in the 2016 review which are no longer sustainable by the Council as they fall short of the national numerical criteria required to justify a patrol. The criteria take the number of vehicles passing the crossing point, combined with the number of children crossing, during the busiest 30-minute period in the morning and afternoon.

This will affect the crossing patrols at Liskeard Road and Fairmead Road, for Burraton School in Saltash. This no longer meets the criteria and therefore the Council will reluctantly cease funding the Crossing Patrols at the end of the 2016 Summer Term, although, I have now come to an agreement with Cornwall Council to extend this to November to allow us to argue our case for Burraton School and to search for a plan B if necessary. I know that most Crossing Patrols are greatly valued by both parents and schools so, if the school values the service, this need not mean the end of the Patrols. The Council is willing to offer an agreement



CORNWALL  
COUNCIL



& our PL12 Community  
For: August 2016 Observer  
From: Councillor Bob Austin,  
West Ward, Saltash  
Email: baustin@cornwall.gov.uk

with the school to continue provision, but only on the grounds that the school or some other organisation pay the costs.

## Introduction of Government's Benefit Cap

I wanted to let you know about the next phase of the Government's Welfare Reforms which involves the introduction of a benefit cap from the autumn of this year and this may affect some of the residents of Saltash.

As part of the Welfare Reform and Work Act 2016, the current benefit cap levels are being reduced nationally in autumn 2016. An exact date is still to be confirmed by the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP), although it is expected to be implemented nationally from November this year.

The DWP has written to all customers nationally who are likely to be affected by the new benefit cap levels. All letters were sent by 10 June 2016.

In Cornwall, based on current data, 625 customers are likely to be impacted. This figure includes those customers whose Housing Benefit is currently capped. Further analysis has been undertaken to fully understand the impact on our 625 residents which has shown that 84 of them reside in Cornwall Housing properties. We are working closely with Cornwall Housing and all other Registered Providers within Cornwall and have shared appropriate data to ensure they are aware of the impact on their tenants. By working together, we hope to provide information and advice to reduce the impact on individuals and the Council.

## Carkeel Roundabout

The work on the roundabout has now been delayed till after the summer holidays for obvious reasons. The budget has been agreed and the contractors should be all set to go in the autumn. I have yet to see the final set of drawings. I have some designs done by Chris Wells a local artist for an artwork for the top of the roundabout. Chris has given up his own time to produce these drawings free of charge - Thanks Chris.

## Brexiteer

I am sorry, I have to disagree with my colleague Cllr Derek Holley on his ramblings in last month's Observer on why he voted out. I am one of the 48% who voted to stay in, but I don't intend to go on about it as I think people have had enough. The only thing I will say that this is not good for Cornwall and is certainly not good for Cornwall Council. These figures came out of a briefing to members yesterday which have been allocated for the years 2016/2020. My fears unfortunately are coming true.

The European Social fund which CC were going to get £71M is now officially at risk.

The European Redevelopment fund which CC were going to get £303M is now officially at risk.

The Agricultural Fund where CC were going to get £89M is now officially at risk.

Are these funds going to be replaced by this Conservative Government? I think not!

I agree with Derek on the MEP's though, they did not communicate whatsoever during the referendum (how many did you see any on BBC Question Time? I can only remember one.) this should have been a time when they could have blown their own trumpets and told us how good the EU is! Perhaps they don't believe it themselves! Maybe I should have voted out!

## Notice

### Deceased Estate Notice to Creditors

**Name of Deceased:** Mr Teverson John Wenham  
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**Date/place of death:** At home 28th of July 2015

**Executor** Mr S A Finney  
**Contact details for claims:** 3, Brill Close,  
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Buckinghamshire  
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**Final date for claims:** 13th of October 2016

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## Observer Telephone Numbers

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## Mayoral Matters...

So – do you like my new hat? It has plenty of feathers...

It is one of the lesser-known traditions of our vibrant town that Mayors are required to hold an owl at the annual Discovery Day at Churchtown Farm Community Nature Reserve. I'd been warned. But I wasn't prepared for the owl to think my head would make a good perch...

Our young daughters were quick to point out I was lucky that Mr. Owl hadn't left a memento in my hair... We all pointed to the view, which reminded us how lucky we are to have this special reserve, managed by the Cornwall Wildlife Trust in partnership with the volunteers of the Friends of Churchtown Farm Nature Reserve. The Reserve truly feels cared for - local people taking a pride in where they live.

That same sense of community pride is gloriously evident in the stunning Saltash Chronicles Embroidery. The final stitches of this illustrated, embroidered history of Saltash are now in place, and the long, long piece of artistic history is on display on the walls of Saltash Baptist Church. Open to the public from 10am to 1pm on Saturdays until 24th September, the embroidery depicts scenes of Saltash from the Stone Age right up to the present day. It has been lovingly created by a dedicated team of more than 70 Saltash historians, artists, embroiderers and artisans. Not only does it depict history, but it has also created history. Do go and have a look – you'll come away with a crick in your neck but also with a tangible sense of community pride.

### Community Pride

Those valiant folk who come along to the monthly litter picks organised by Saltash Town Council in conjunction with Saltash Environmental Action Group are also driven by a sense of community pride. They love Saltash and are unhappy with the amount of litter that is mindlessly strewn about. The next litter pick is on 28th August, meeting at 2pm in the Leisure



Centre Car Park to tackle the cinder path and Alamein Estate. The litter picks are always plenty of fun – bring a pair of gloves and join in.

Not only is litter unsightly, it is also harmful to wildlife and attracts gulls, particularly the species we call "seagulls" – the ones that venture over open ocean. Seagulls' cries may be evocative of long summer days at the beach, but seagulls that flock together can be pretty pesky and bad for our health. Saltash Town Council has been receiving an increasing number of reports of gull nuisance in the town, of gulls divebombing or ripping open rubbish bags to get food. We are printing out flyers and posters with tips about how to keep the numbers down. But seagulls can't read... so the only real way to stop gulls creating such a mess is to change how we discard things: don't put out rubbish sacks before 7am on the day of collection and don't drop litter.

Don't forget that gull-proof reusable sacks are available from Saltash library for £3.50. There are more expensive products, too, like "optical fire gel," which apparently looks like flames to a gull and can be applied to many surfaces. We see orange, but with their ability to see UV light, birds get a different picture. Alternatively: gulls don't like bright, scary owl faces on masks or balloons, and some will also avoid wooden owls. So if you don't mind a few lawn ornaments, you can at least keep the annoying birds guessing.

The other alternative is to walk around with an owl on your head, but that's not too comfy. I know. I've tried.

*Cllr Hilary Frank  
Town Mayor*

## Harmonious Handover at the Bridge



A harmonious chorus of 'How we sang today' resounded across the Tamar as local singers from Brunel Harmony met with the Chordettes from Teignmouth and a Beacon of Harmony was passed from Devon to Cornwall. The event formed a part of the festivities marking the Ladies Association of Barbershop Singers' fortieth anniversary.

### Gig Club Success Celebrated In Civic Reception

Saltash based world champion rowers were guests at a civic reception held by the Mayor and Town Council in the Guildhall.

They were celebrating the achievements of the Caradon Ladies 'A' team in winning the world gig racing championships held in the Isles of Scilly earlier this year. This was an exciting 'First' for the ladies who matched the men's veterans crew who were also celebrating being world champions, in their case for the third time.

The club, based at Saltash, has an amazing reputation for their rowing skills, the men's 'A' team having been world champions a record twelve times. The young rowers too show promise for the club's future, the under sixteen crew having won the County Championship three times.

'The town of Saltash is very proud to be your home base'. Mayor Hilary Frank commended, adding that rowing, as a sport is unique in the crew having such a total dependence on each other in working as a team. She also advised that the town is making a new award of a cup to be given at the end of each season to the club member judged to have made the best contribution to the club.

'This is a huge occasion to us, having been working towards winning the ladies championship for at least fifteen years' replied team chair Natasha Ingleby.

The club has been on the

water for around a quarter of a century and most members have always rowed from Saltash. She commented on the club's close involvement in the town and the community, particularly local schools. 'Success starts at the bottom and we welcome over twenty students from Saltash.net School who enjoy winter activities with us and go on the river in summer.' The club also attracts crowds of fellow rowers and spectators to Saltash each year firstly for the gruelling Three Rivers Race, which opens the season, and which, welcomed 35 clubs this year, as well as for the ever-popular Saltash Regatta. With now four good racing boats the club looks forward to continuing success on the water.

'We hope now to move from strength to strength and to be even more successful at every level', concluded Natasha, adding her special thanks to coxswain Steve Kent.

Festivities had opened last October at the 2015 National Convention in Bournemouth with the launch of the Beacon of Harmony, a specially commissioned scroll which is, over the year, visiting all fifty-two member clubs. At each handover there is a celebration of harmony by two or more member clubs, and a piece of music written especially for the anniversary is sung. Each of these performances is recorded and will be combined into a virtual chorus of over 2200 voices in glorious harmony! The celebrations will conclude with the arrival of the scroll at the 2016 Convention in Harrogate this October.

Brunel Harmony also combined to celebrate Harmony in Cornwall with singers from Wadebridge and Truro at a Cornish Celebration with pasties and cream teas in Dobwalls as part of their 2016 programme of bringing the delight of close harmony singing to a variety of audiences.

## Apples and Fireworks for Autumn Festival

The dark days of Autumn will be enlightened by a 'Kalan Gwav' festival to be held at Warfelton Field, Saltash councillors agreed. This is a traditional festival in Cornwall and other Celtic lands to mark the first day of Winter, Mayor Hilary Frank explained. Saltash does not have a firework festival at this time and when Saltash United Football Club decided to mount a display last November instead of the anticipated two hundred or so visitors they were overwhelmed by more like two thousand.

Both Saltash United and Saltash Guides are busy fundraising and both lost out this year when the May Fair moved from Warfelton to the town centre.

The proposal includes a traditional 'Alantide' Festival at which Cornish people presented apples to family and friends. It is hoped to have an apple theme, especially apt since Saltash Environmental Action Group has planted a number of apple trees

around the town. A music group has agreed to run workshops and help create music and lyrics for an 'Essa Wassail', the wassail being a traditional Winter event in which evil spirits are banished from apple trees to guarantee a good harvest the following year. All of this will be brought together on Firework Night; 5th November.

As well as mulled cider

afternoon, local stalls would be encouraged to set up on the field with in particular an apple theme and children would be encouraged to participate in a scarecrow trail.

A booklet could be published after to include the lyrics of the 'Essa Wassail' and some apple recipes.

Town Councillors agreed to support the event and put £1,000 from the town's festival fund towards it.

## Hopper Bus Trips

August 2016

Friday 12th August

**Fish & Chips at Port & Starboard  
Indian Queens then on to Newquay**  
11am - £12.00

Tuesday 16th August

**Plymouth Firework Championship**  
19.30pm - £4.00 plus entry

Wednesday 17th August

**Plymouth Firework Championship**  
19.30pm - £4.00 plus entry

Sunday 28th August

**Morval Vintage Steam Rally & Looe**  
10am - £5.50 plus entry

Monday 29th August

**Newlyn Fish Festival**  
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**Then Karaoke** 8-Close (Bar)  
**SUN 28TH Childrens Fun Day** (Main Hall)  
**September 16**  
Sat 3rd **The Line Up** (Bar)  
Sat 10th **Wendellas** (Bar)  
Sun 11th **Karaoke** (Bar)  
Sat 17th **Clay** (Bar)  
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## Mike and Joan Celebrate Five Years at The Ploughboy

The flower baskets, which surround the recently redecorated 'Ploughboy Inn', are just a part of the attractive makeover intended to ensure that this popular hostelry builds upon its reputation as among the finest of local venues for drinking and dining.

All of the dishes from the new and extensive menu can be enjoyed in the attractive and traditional bar area or the separate family friendly restaurant, which opens out into an attractive garden. There are indoor and outdoor play areas and the restaurant opening hours, from 5p.m on weekdays and all day at weekends, encourage families to share an evening dining experience at the 'Ploughboy'.

Fine dining is enhanced by the finest of wines and landlord Mike offers an excellent selection of red white and rosé, stored and served at optimum temperature. After many years in the licensing trade Mike has also acquired a good knowledge of beers, and he is proud to offer an excellent range of local real ales from Sharps, St. Austell and Dartmoor breweries as well as ciders, chilled lagers and a range of spirits to be enjoyed with meals or just relaxed over in the bar or beer terrace.

### Lesley's Fine Cuisine

There is also a substantial function room available for groups and parties for any and every occasion. Here guests can partake of the fine cuisine that Lesley promises to each and every customer. She will be delighted to offer a wide range varying from delicious and tempting finger buffets to full two or three course sit down lunch or dinner, customers can also bring their own ideas to discuss with Lesley. It is anticipated that the function room will as ever become increasingly popular as Christmas approaches.

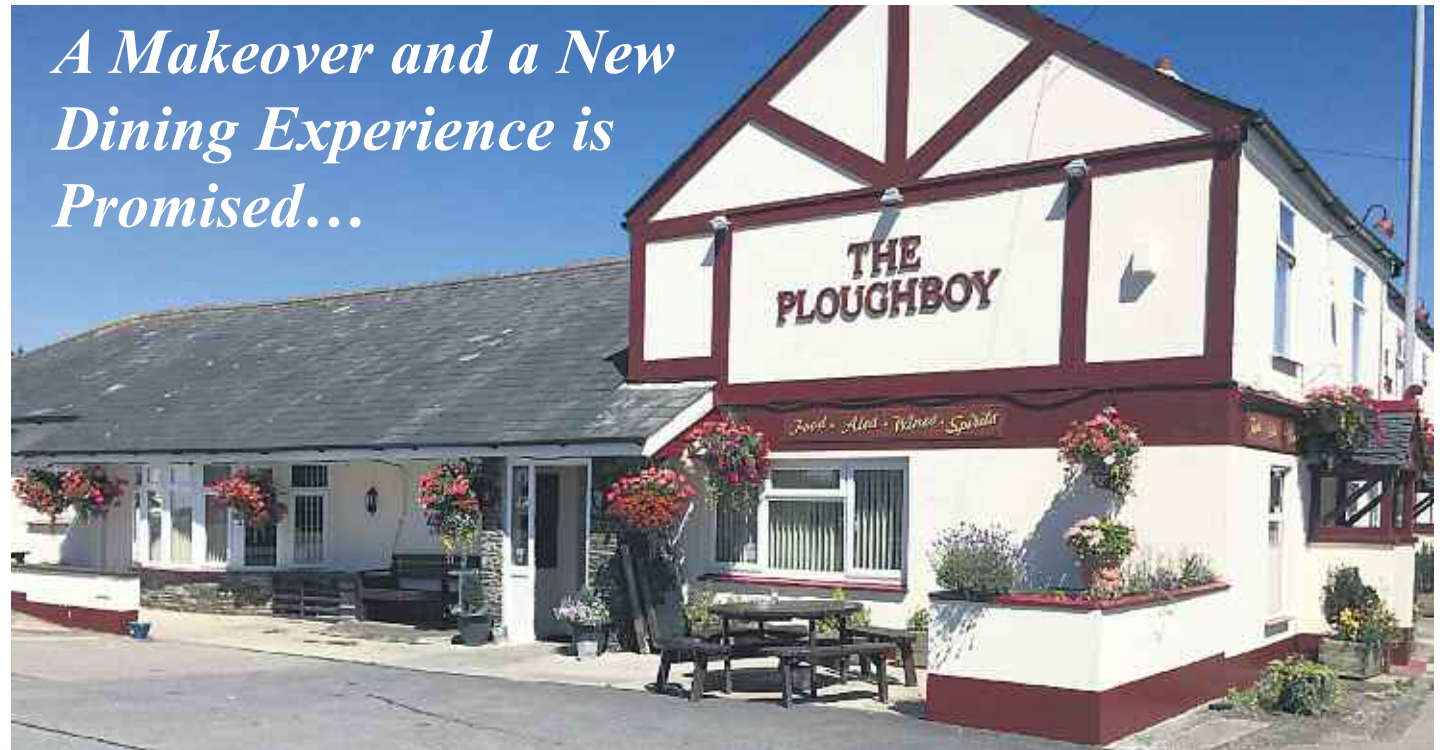
**Kids Play Area/Garden**  
All children must be supervised by an adult

Other plans to enhance the range of dining opportunities at the Ploughboy include early opening for breakfasts at weekends. Meanwhile the popular senior citizens lunches at sensible prices remain available from Monday to Thursday. The Ploughboy will continue to serve as a popular pub at the heart of its community, with its men and ladies' darts, pool and euchre teams starting a new season in September. Televised sport can be enjoyed, limited to the bar area and as autumn arrives and with longer winter nights in mind Mike is anticipating

re-introducing the popular Ploughboy live music evenings according to demand.

Mike and Joan firmly believe that a pub such as the 'Ploughboy' should be a part of the community that it continues to serve. They have always worked hard to promote local sports teams and fund local charities, as many will remember the Ploughboy hosting our own Observer super charity quiz night last year. And in this tradition the euchre team has recently been delighted to raise £300 and present it to Macmillan nurses.

From traditional local pub with traditional values to an exciting dining venue with a new angle of fresh and tasty meals to satisfy the full family, the 'Ploughboy' remains at the heart of the Saltash community that it serves.



*A Makeover and a New Dining Experience is Promised...*

## Cornish Maid Heads the Team in the Kitchen... She Brings with Her a Wealth of Experience

A new exciting dining experience is promised as Mike and Joan celebrate their fifth year as the popular hosts at the 'Ploughboy Inn' with a variety of

changes, which include introducing a delicious and innovative cuisine for all the family.

They are delighted to welcome to head of the team at the Ploughboy

Lesley, a "Cornish maid" who has thirty years of catering experience, much of it local, and who is delighted to be back in Saltash where her daughter was at school.

Lesley brings with her a wealth of experience and is thrilled at the opportunities that the 'Ploughboy' offers to share her love of cooking with its customers. She has in her first week made changes to the extensive and newly enhanced kitchen area to suit her way of working. 'I am really pleased to be back in Saltash and at the Ploughboy', she told us. 'There are an exciting number of catering challenges here and I feel sure that I can fulfil my ambitions in making changes to open a new era at the Ploughboy and produce food to please all tastes'



favourites such as liver and bacon and juicy steaks cooked to customer's perfection. She is however keen to tempt local taste buds with more exotic dishes including especially fresh seafood's such as calamari and mussels.

Tempting deserts too will range from the traditional crumbles, Pavlova and bread and butter pudding to lychees.

Regular customers will be reassured to know that the ever popular Sunday carvery will be available from midday each Sunday, now offering a choice of three succulent meat dishes with an imaginative array of seasonal fresh vegetables and Lesley's special home made Yorkshire puddings.

And though the best of the hot summer days are yet to come, all too soon thoughts will turn to Christmas bookings for individuals, families and groups.

Lesley is already having ideas for that special season ranging from the regular roast to more exotic choices in keeping with the new ethos of both traditional and adventurous fine dining with the freshest and tastiest dishes at the new-look 'Ploughboy'.

*It's here...*

## THE PLOUGHBOY'S New Menu

See below a small selection of the tasty dishes on now on offer, to see more & to try the new menu... Call in or telephone to make a booking.

### Ploughboy Favourites...14 choices...to include

**Homemade Chicken Curry** served on a bed of rice with nan bread, poppadum & Mango chutney **£8.50**

**Liver & Bacon Stack** served on a bed of creamy mash, topped with onion gravy & peas **£8.50**

**Daily Roast:** choice of available meat, seasonal veg, roast potatoes & gravy **£7.55**

### Ploughboy Steaks & Grills

All served with chips, onion rings, Mushrooms, tomato & peas

**Rump £11.50 & Sirloin £13.25**

**Gammon Steak** with a choice of fresh pineapple, egg or both **£9.95**

**Mixed Grill:** 2 sausages, rump, pork loin, gammon, liver, tomato, egg, onion rings, mushrooms, chips & peas **£13.95**

**Surf & Turf:** rump steak, scampi, mushrooms tomato, egg, onion rings, chips & peas **£13.95**

### Vegetarian Options...8 choices + (Others are included elsewhere on menu)

**Vegetable Lasagne** served with salad new potatoes & garlic bread **£8.00**

**Vegetable Curry** with rice, naan bread, poppadum & mango chutney **£8.00**

**Vegetarian Breakfast** 2 quorn sausages, 2 eggs, hash brown, fried bread, tomato, mushrooms beans & toast **£6.50**

**Call 01752 842861 for Bookings**

**Call in to see the Full Menu**

*Most dishes can be made to suit gluten free dietary needs please ask when ordering*

### Children's Tastes...All £5.00 (Suitable for children up to 12 years old)

**Chicken Nuggets** served with chips & beans or peas

**Hot Dog & Chips**

**Macaroni Cheese & garlic bread**  
**Homemade Cottage Pie** topped with creamy mash & served with veg & gravy

**Homemade Spaghetti Bolognese** served with garlic bread & fresh parmesan cheese

### Starters

A good selection of starters including Salt & Pepper Calamari served with Sweet Chilli dipping sauce

### Ploughman's Lunch

All served with a crispy salad, balsamic dressing, homemade coleslaw, potato salad, various pickles, hot new potatoes, warm roll & butter

**Naked Prawns – Honey Glazed Ham or Cheddar & Stilton £8.75**

### Fish Dishes...6 choices to include

**Poached Cod** served with salad & new potatoes **£8.45**

### Light Bites...

**Jacket potatoes** all served with a crispy leaf salad, balsamic dressing & homemade crunchy coleslaw

### Baguettes & Pasta Dishes

**Sunday Carvery**...choice of 3 meats, served with seasonal veg & all the trimmings  
Adults **£7.95** Children **£5.95**

**Patrons & Guests Special Dietary Requirements**  
Catered for where possible

She promises in particular that the new menu which she is introducing will include all food cooked fresh including her famous home-made pies, curries, chillies and soups.

She offers a gluten free and vegetarian selection as well as a wide children's menu including tasty healthy alternatives for parents who aim to encourage healthy and nourishing eating for growing children.

The new and extensive menu will include many of Lesley's own traditional

## Celebrating Their 5th Anniversary



A new exciting dining experience is promised  
at

## THE PLOUGHBOY

Liskeard Rd Saltash

Mike & Joan welcome Lesley to  
Head the Catering Team

With 30 years experience, Lesley will be introducing  
delicious and innovative cuisine for all the family

**Don't forget to book early to try our  
New Sunday Carvery – choice of 3 meats**

With an imaginative array of  
seasonal fresh vegetables

& Lesley's special home made Yorkshire Puddings  
Adults £7.95 & Children 12yrs & under £5.95

Enjoy a Sunday Lunch with family  
and friends

\*\*\*\*\*

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

(See Mike & Joan for further details)

**Celebrate at 'The Ploughboy'**

Private function rooms available

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

Groups & Organisations welcome for regular or  
One off events

Tel: 01752 842861 for more details

**Look Out for details of our...**

Entertainment at the PLOUGHBOY

Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> August: **Jazz Evening**

Jazz Night last Sunday in every month

Comprehensive Menu with  
Specials Board

**Choose from Our New & Varied Menu**

Gluten Free & Vegetarian selection available

Children's Menu with healthy alternatives

**Food...**

Lunch Menu available from

12noon - 2.30pm Mon-Fri

Evening Meals available from...

Mon-Thurs: 5pm - 8.30pm Friday: 5pm - 8.30pm

Saturdays from: 12 noon - 8.30pm

Sundays from: 12 noon - 8.00pm

Clubs, Organisations & Coaches Welcome

Please book to avoid disappointment

We are open for Morning Coffee & Afternoon Tea

Mike & Joan would like to thank their  
loyal customers over the past 5 years  
for all their support

**Experienced Bar Staff Required**

Call 01752 842861 for bookings

\*\*\*\*\*

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

Bookings advisable

## Young Award Winners Speak of Successes

Teenagers who have attended royal receptions at Buckingham Palace and Windsor Castle were invited to describe their experiences to Town Councillors and the public at a council meeting.

They included those who had received the prestigious Queen's Scout Award as well as the gold Duke of Edinburgh Award.

The Saltash Open Award Centre is celebrating around a quarter of a century of helping teenagers to achieve their best in the various categories leading to bronze, silver and gold awards. One of the organisers, Luke, told the council, since he and his wife Sarah took over four years ago the number of young participants has increased from four to around thirty, more than they could properly handle.

They now have around twenty young people, a good number. The centre was endangered when Cornwall Council funding was lost during recent cuts but the charity Young People Cornwall is now supporting the centre and has taken on its licence so its future seems assured.

Teenage gold achiever Georgie Owen described how she had been fearful of spending six months volunteering at Rowan House residential home as part of her work for the award. In fact she enjoyed it totally, was sad to leave, and it has helped her decide upon her university and career options. She also spoke of how her group had coped during an

expedition in the Brecon Beacons when a member had collapsed with a heart condition while they were out of mobile phone contact. All had worked out well in the end and she described her visit, with her mother, to take tea in Buckingham Palace gardens, mingling with royalty as well as award winners from all over Britain. 'I could not have done it without Luke, Sarah and the other volunteers, and the memories will stay with me forever,' she concluded.

Local Scouts have also been working for the Duke of Edinburgh Awards through their scout groups as well as for similar scout awards. They had attained seven bronze, one silver and five gold awards the previous month and several had gone on to achieve the Queen's Scout Award, the highest accolade in scouting.

Local scout Christopher Fox described how as well as visiting Buckingham Palace he had been invited to parade in full scout uniform at Windsor Castle, been reviewed by royalty, and enjoyed meeting fellow scouts from throughout Britain. 'I felt really proud having gone through from bronze medal to Queen's Scout Award', he concluded.

## Charity Cheques Presented at Ploughboy



Six charities shared a total of £19,000 donated to various causes connected with health and medical care at a presentation held in the 'Ploughboy Inn'

The Friends of Mount Gould Hospital committee which had been chaired by Saltash resident Bob Wiley was disbanding after over 26 years of fund raising, originally for Plympton Hospital until its closure. The Committee had sadly decided not to continue due to lack of volunteers to support it.

Our photograph shows cheques being handed to Zoe Partridge of Children's Hospice South West, which provides vital care to children with terminal illness and support for their families and also to Tim Sutton-Woodhouse on behalf of Medical Detection Dogs. Amazing recent

research now results in specially trained dogs detecting diabetes and cancer, enabling early stage treatment.

Other cheques were presented to Devon Freewheelers motor cycling blood bikes, Marie Curie Cancer nurses, Alzheimer's Society and Robin Ward for acute cases at Mount Gould Hospital.

The 'Ploughboy' was selected for the presentation, being Bob's local and a venue which he knew the Landlords Mike and Joan are always, keen to use for welcoming any event in support of good local cause.

## As We Enter Our Twenty-Fifth Year...

We Look Back at Some of the Great Events we have  
Shared with Saltash

As we enter our quarter centenary, another landmark in the history of your Saltash and District Observer, we look back with pride as we remember all the events within our lively local community on which we have kept our readership informed over the past twenty-five years. Equally importantly we look back on all of those friends we have made in the community over those two and a half decades – many whom we have met while putting about the news and promoting local businesses, including local councillors, others actively seeking to better the community about them, firm friends and we have come to love walking our lively streets with their friendly and welcoming largely locally run businesses and greeting those whom we have come to know. To all of these friends, thank you for your friendship and support over the years and we look forward to seeing you and providing you with your community newspaper promoting your community and your businesses for many more years to come.

### Fun Events

Over the past twenty-five years we have gained a reputation for our own Observer fun events, coupled with fund raising for local charities, especially as we have marked our landmark anniversaries. We have welcomed up to 350 guests to our parties in what is now the Saltash Social Club, with live entertainment and even an in-house casino. We have partied on the beach at Seaton with our Mayor and Member of Parliament, sharing our celebrations with Wreckers' Morris and their famous Summer Duck Race. Recently of course we were thrilled to raise £12,000 for cancer charities, one locally based, largely through our much spoken of mega quiz at the Ploughboy Inn. Well, during our twenty-fifth year, we feel we must do something really special and are listening now to suggestions. Meanwhile as the year progresses we are considering giving a few glimpses to our readers of the events that we have covered over past years and the many changes that we have recorded in and around the town.

These twenty-five years have brought us many highs with a few lows. We have tried to please all and have hopefully pleased the majority of our readers. We have steadfastly never ceased to promote the town we love and encouraged one and all to shop locally. Not only does this help ensure that Saltash remains the vibrant and friendly local community that it has been over the decades, it puts back money into the local economy which is good for us all.

We have also tried to please all of our local organisations including especially charitable groups by publicising their activities and events. It is excellent that there are so many even though this means

that sadly we cannot fit into our pages every event of which we are informed. If we have disappointed some we are sorry, but please ask us again.

Now we must get back to producing what promises to be a special Summer bumper number of your Saltash and District Observer promoting in particular the amazing Arts Festival over the late Summer bank holiday weekend.

Just one of the many local events which we look forward to being involved with during our stupendous twenty-fifth year of being at the heart of the Saltash community and sharing the news with the many friends that we have come to know during the years.



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Year 5/6 Open Evenings  
Wednesday 5th and Thursday 6th October  
6.30pm

saltash.net looks forward to welcoming you to our school



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@praisesaltash facebook.com/saltash.net  
Wearde Road, Saltash, Cornwall  
PL12 4AY  
01752 843715  
enquiries@saltash.net

# #LOVESALTASH FESTIVAL OF ARTS SALTASH TOWN

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> & Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> August 2016

## Programme of Events

**FRIDAY 26th AUGUST**

FROM	TO
All day	
All day	
All day	
All day	
All day	
All day	
9.30 am	1.00 pm
10.00 am	11.00 am
10.00 am	12 noon
10.30 am	
10.00 am	4.00 pm
10.00 am	12 noon
10.00 am	4.00 pm
10.00 am	3.00 pm
10.30 am	1.00 pm
10.30 am	11.30 am
10.30 am	12.30 pm
11.00 am	1.00 pm
11.00 am	4.00 pm
11.30 am	12.30 pm
11.30 am	12.30 pm
11.30 am	1.00 pm
12 noon	2pm
Afternoon	
1.00 pm	3.00 pm
2.00 pm	3pm
2.00 pm	4.30 pm
2.00 pm	4.00 pm
2.00 pm	3.30 pm
2.0 pm	3.0 pm
2.00 pm	3.00 pm
2.00 pm	All day
Late afternoon	
2.30 pm	3.30 pm
3.00 pm	4.00 pm
Early evening	

West Country Funeral Services
Go Mobile
Barclays Bank
4 Fore Street
Saltash Cards
Hennings Moir
Saltash Aesthetics
Firepower
Original Factory Shop
Cornwall mortgage centre
Patricia Ann
4 Fore Street
Field Leisure
Ashtore
Saltash Social Club
Noakes & Habermel
The Courtyard
Heritage Centre
Noakes & Habermel
In the street
The Bookshelf
Coral Bookies Garden
Keast Mews
Firepower
The Brunel
Victoria Gardens - Peace Garden
Lloyds Pharmacy
Brunel
Walk round old Saltash with Martin Lister and enjoy afternoon tea at
Heritage Centre and Elliotts Stores
Saltash Pharmacy
Keast Mews
"Driftwood, Keast Mews."
"Driftwood, Keast Mews."
Railway Inn
The Courtyard
Original Factory Shop
JustBe

Thattledoo - See Wendy's lovely clothes
Jamie - Learn about Marshmallow and io59
Saltash Photographic Group Display
Community Market - Collect your Treasure Trail
Free balloon with every purchase while stocks last
Jonathan Budd's brilliant photographs
See Becky in The Courtyard and mix your bespoke face masque
John West woodwork display
Sam does face painting
Myint Chein displays her paintings
Keith Rawlings paints outside the shop
Phil Harwin of Greenwood craft teaches you to make flowers (£5 per person)
Rachel Taylor demonstrates shaving foam decoration
"Art on the Edge - Original paintings, drawings and prints."
"Messy Carts crafting and colouring (£3.50 for small projects, £5 for large)"
Saltash Quilters show you how their patchwork and quilting is created
Peter Crawford sings
Open for research
Mike Hartland demonstrates weaving
Senior Moments' Quartet
Dad's Army lunch and music
Livewire buskers
Judy Whitlock sings and plays the cello
Lace Making demonstration
Peter Mancini sings your old favourites
Teddy Bears Picnic (order a picnic from the Railway Inn 396673)
Rachel Taylor does nail polish marbling for cards
Mike Hartland plays the mandolin
St Barnabas (tickets £4 from Piglets)
Open for research
Margrett shows off her souvenir cards
Judy Whitlock sings and plays the cello
"Vicki Archer, well known artist."
Shop offers 5% of all art materials today
Geoff Taylor sings 1940s and 1950s songs
Livewire Buskers
Sam does face painting for you
Geoff Taylor sings songs you'll remember

**SATURDAY 27th August**

All day	Passport to Sport - Travel via the Hopper to sample different activities and collect your Passport at The Guildhall
All day	4 Fore Street
All day	Hennings Moir
All day	Saltash Cards
All day	Saltash Aesthetics
All day	Library
9.30 am	10.30 am
10.00 am	12 noon
10.00 am	4.00 pm
10.00 am	12 noon
10.00 am	12 noon
10.00 am	4.00 pm
10.00 am	12 noon
10.00 am	12 noon
10.00 am	3.00 pm
10.00 am	3.00 pm
10.00 am	3.00 pm
10.30 am	3.00 pm
10.30 am 11.30 am	
10.30 am	12.30 pm
10.30 am	11.30 am
10.30 am	11.30 am
11.00 am	4.00 pm
11.00 am	1.00 pm
11.00 am	11.30 am
12 noon	1pm
12 noon	2.00 pm
1.00 pm	3.00 pm
1.00 pm	3.00 pm
1.00 pm	onwards
1.00 pm	3.00 pm
1.30 pm	2.30 pm
1.30 pm	3.30 pm
2.00 pm	4.00 pm
2.30 pm	3.30 pm
2.00 pm	7.00 pm

Community Market offers you a Treasure Trail
Jonathan Budd brilliant photographs
Free balloon with every purchase while stocks last
See Becky in The Courtyard and mix your bespoke face masque
Lace making demonstration
The Crafty Crowd throw a party for 4-10 years - see Facebook
Roger and David display their paintings
Museum - A Tale of Retail
Gary Cooper paints outside the shop
Saltash Chronicles embroidery project
"Art on the Edge - Original paintings, drawings and prints."
John West woodwork display
Rachel Taylor demonstrates wax and paint on stencils
Outdoor Market
Plymouth Party Princesses Face painting and glitter tattoos
"Pavement Art competition - chalks provided, supervision essential."
Livewire Buskers
Learn how to screen print with Graham - Book on 849517 (£4 includes T-shirt)
Ruth Ballantyne plays the flute
Dad's Army Lunch and music
Becky Ridge transforms furniture
Hand Bell Ringers play for you
Mike Hartland plays the mandolin
Peter Mancini sings your old favourites
Join in with Livewire Vocal Fun by Amy and Lacey
Rachel Taylor demonstrates water colour background on cards
Julie Dunn sings for you
The Crafty Crowd throw a party for 4-10 year olds - see Facebook
Mike Hartland demonstrates weaving
Learn how to screen print with Graham - Book on 849517 (£4 includes T-shirt)
Open for viewing
Livewire Buskers
Workshop on drawing/tapestry/sculpture - Book on 845755 £2.50 each

*Come and Try a New Hobby!*  
The timetable herewith was full and correct at the time of going to press.  
For further information visit <http://www.saltashchamber.org/festival-of-arts>  
**Saltash Town Centre Businesses**

# Saltah Town Presents its Third Arts Festival

Entertain the Family During the Summer Holidays... Visit Fore Street and Join in our Creative Activities from Craft Demonstrations to Music & Entertainment

## Summer Festival of Fun with Sports and Arts for All

For two summers days in late August Saltash promises to be alive with art, music, craft demonstrations and a wide variety of events to entertain and inspire all from tots and teenagers to adults and seniors.

This year the Third Saltash Arts Festival promises to be the best ever with a whole host of displays, activities and events spread into two days over Friday and Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> August.

The streets will be alive with the sound of music as buskers wander, soloist sing the favourites of past years, and Livewire Vocal Fun offer more modern music. From the delicate sounds of mandolin and flute to the distinct chime of hand bells professionally played, just check out the packed programme.

While wandering between the melodic entertainments one will be aware of the wide array of art on display in and around our local shops. Again styles will vary and there will be the opportunity to talk to artists some of whom may be actively at work in the street. From photographic displays to shaving foam decoration this is the chance to explore local traditional to more esoteric forms of art.

And should this inspire to become involved in a new activity again these will be an amazing variety of art and craft demonstrations, with the chance to see the expert at work.

From lace making to flower making, woodwork to weaving, wax and paint

## Great Days Out----

The enterprising local businesses have come together to create the third Festival of Arts. A glance at the packed programme shows what a variety of attractions they have arranged for the visitors delight and interest

**Cottons Mini Coaches**  
Cottons' Award Winning Classic Coach

Telephone 841 300 Visit the Saltash Arts Festival with family & friends!

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Hair & Make-Up by Qualified & Passionate Professionals  
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Supporting #LOVESALTASH FESTIVAL OF ARTS

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E Liquid 40ml for £10.00  
Candles + Joss Sticks + Clothing  
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E Cigarette Gift Sets Now in Stock  
66 Fore St Saltash T: 01752 651 864  
Supporting #LOVESALTASH Festival

## The Summer of Sport Continues in Saltash

Remember the Passport to Sport? It was held in 2012 as part of the celebrations to mark the Olympic Torch being carried through the town. 2016 is the year of the Rio Olympics so the Town Council feels it is a good time to run the event again. Various clubs will run taster sessions in a sport. From rugby at the Rugby Club to table tennis at the Wesley Church there will be something for everyone! For each taster session completed you'll get a stamp in your passport. The first 50 participants to fill their passport with stamps and bring it to Passport Control will receive a special Olympic memento.

The event will run between 10am and 2pm on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> August, in conjunction with the Love Saltash Festival. The Hopper bus will be running a circular service connecting the Passport to Sport venues with Passport Control in the town centre. It is all free - so pick up a passport from one of the participating venues and get active!

**XeFit Pilates**  
at the Saltash Guide HQ

Thursdays - 9.15 - 10.15am  
All ages and abilities welcome  
Gentle Holistic & Remedial Exercise  
Contact Xenia on 07758400967  
[www.facebook.com/XeFit](http://www.facebook.com/XeFit)

**Ashleys** Tel: 845705

Unisex Hairdressers - Trelawney Rd, St Stephens, Saltash

**A Joico Hair Range Salon**  
We would like to wish Hilary & Sho  
Every Success with the Passport to Sport event & #LOVESALTASH FESTIVAL

Ashleys Est 28yrs  
UNISEX HAIRDRESSERS - SALTASH 845705

**Caffe Corradi**

Italian Coffee Shop  
Buon Appetito

Mon- Fri Open 8.30am - 4pm Sat 8.30am - 3pm  
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**The Bookshelf & The Tea Rooms Saltash**

Proudly Present our Themed Event  
In Association with  
Saltash Arts Festival  
Join us for  
**Dad's Army** Lunch & Music

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**ROAD CLOSURES**  
#LOVESALTASH FESTIVAL OF ARTS  
Start: August 27<sup>th</sup> 2016 (Saturday) 07:00  
End August 27<sup>th</sup> 2016 (Saturday) 19:00  
Closure: Lower Fore Street - Between junction with Fore Street and junction with Station Road.  
Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> August 2016  
Sorry for any inconvenience caused, but we will need to close off Lower Fore Street between its junctions with Fore Street and Station Road for our open air arts festival.  
Between 07:00 and 19:00, vehicular access will be prohibited along the above mentioned section of Lower Fore Street.  
For more information and emergency contact details, please visit: [trafficmanagement.ftasgroup.co.uk](http://trafficmanagement.ftasgroup.co.uk).

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The Saltash Arts Festival ... A great event for visitors to enjoy

Sue & Debbie welcome you to...

**PETIT PAIN**

Open for tea coffee and light lunches  
Comprehensive hot & cold menu  
Finger Buffet Catered for!

Ask for details  
We are open throughout #LOVESALTASH Festivities 2016 & Welcome you to pop in to see us for refreshments  
Tel 01752 844022 Fore St Saltash  
Join us for a fun weekend

**TAMAR CARDS**  
Greeting Cards for all Occasions

Supporting #LOVESALTASH Festival of Arts

Mob: 07530 590 008  
136 Fore St Saltash

**Driftwood**  
Gifts, Art & Crafts

Fri 26<sup>th</sup> Aug come & see Acrylic Demo by Professional Artist Vicki Archer

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[saltash@newellstravel.co.uk](mailto:saltash@newellstravel.co.uk) : [www.newellstravel.co.uk](http://www.newellstravel.co.uk)

## Livewire – A Lifesaver for Seventy Years on Saltash Waterfront

The issues facing the young people in 2016 may seem a galaxy away from the immediate post war world of 1946. Yet it was in that year that a former mission hall on Saltash Waterfront became the Waterside Boys' Club, at the suggestion of the Rev. W H Prior, vicar and voluntary probation officer, concerned at the number of young lads, many without male role models, getting into trouble and appearing before the Courts "because they had nothing else to do".

### Seventieth anniversary

Now seventy years later on the same site the same youth facility, since around 1999 renamed 'Livewire' continues to offer a welcome, a venue and if required personal advice and help to a new generation, making it youth worker Andy Rance believes, the longest continually serving youth facility in the South West.

As it celebrates its seventieth anniversary Livewire looks back at its history since the first club leader Harry Taylor was appointed in 1949 as the first full time club leader in Cornwall, accepted into the tight-knit Waterside community where 'strangers were not always welcomed'. The boys' club soon gained a reputation for sporting and especially waterborne activities, attracting those from 'up the town' so that by 1957 it was decided to rename it the Saltash Boys' Club.

It soon outgrew the former mission hall and following a massive fund raising appeal it was replaced by the present building, opened in 1965 by popular entertainer Frankie Vaughan, setting a tradition of association with popular music of the changing times.

Girls too clamoured to enjoy its activities, especially rowing, and it was a major event when a lady leader, Jean Scoble was appointed before the club celebrated its fiftieth anniversary. Clearly Boys' Club was no longer an appropriate title and after a variety of names were put forward by members 'Livewire' was chosen and such it is today.

The club has witnessed low points as well as high and when Andy Rance, who had been a volunteer since around 1991, became a paid youth worker in 1997 he admits facilities were minimal and working with the twenty to thirty regular attendees was 'Challenging'. Andy took it upon himself to roam the streets and fields around Saltash, wherever young people congregated, and ask of them what they wanted of their youth club. The overwhelming response was 'a proper music facility' and from a small recording studio the club has developed to offer the latest in hi-tech playing and recording facilities.

Andy, who admits to having had a troubled and troublesome youth himself, much of it in care, had played in a punk band and after army service worked in security, meeting with many famous names in music. He was thus able to persuade Phil Collins and Mick Jagger, as well as local names including Viscount Boyd and Sir Richard Carew-Pole to help finance a club that now works with around 1650 young people, attracting over a hundred during many of its open sessions.

"Music is a carrot that draws young people through the

doors, many of whom would not normally attend a youth club", says Andy. "Once in many go on to relate, to talk about personal issues and feel able to discuss their problems as they arise."

### Saved their lives

Many of these young people will say that Livewire has literally saved their lives. Many who come in have been suicidal or self-harming, including one who had tried to hang himself and when first referred refused to speak at Livewire. It was a while before he admitted to Andy "For the first time in my life I'm enjoying being a young person" He has now gone on to be a professional session guitarist, one of many Saltash young people who have taken up careers in music. Many have thrilled to be taken to concerts where they have chatted to Peter Townsend of the "Who" and gone backstage at the O2 with the "Rolling

saltash.net.school. These range from workshops on online safety and sessions helping sixth formers cope with stress to intervening with those whose behaviour threaten them with expulsion. "We have a wonderful partnership with the school", believes Andy.

### Asperger's, and Autism

Throughout the club's activities have been member-led, expanding according to the young peoples' demand. Recent demand has resulted in the setting up of a mutual support group, with social worker support for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender teenagers, while the club continues to work with those of various disabilities including Asperger's, and autism – all services that the young people have asked for.

Meanwhile a hundred or more gather on club nights, juniors aged 10 – 13 on Wednesdays from 6.30 to 8.30 p.m. and seniors from 13 – 21 on Mondays and Thursdays from 7 p.m. to 9.45 p.m. As well as music they can enjoy snooker, table-football, or just socialising with each other around the coffee bar. Andy and his wife Julie "my stabilizer" are there with other volunteer workers to talk in confidence if required to any young person with a personal problem of any nature, filling the same role as Harry Taylor back in the 1940's and the many other who succeeded him.

A seventieth anniversary celebration heavy metal fund raising event was planned for May with other open concerts and events to be publicised later in the year. And during the June regatta, together with Saltash Heritage, Livewire mounted an exhibition to display seventy years of change while caring for the young people of Saltash.

## Photos & Stories Required

Livewire is celebrating 70 years and we are hosting a Royal visit HRH the duchess of Gloucester on the 8th September. We would love to hear from any past members or anyone who has any photos or stories from the past. Please contact Andy Rance at Livewire.

Stones" positive life changing experiences for some local people.

### Devastating blow

Two years ago came the devastating blow, three days before the end of the financial year as a result of cuts Livewire was told that all of its Cornwall Council funding was withdrawn. Closure seemed inevitable but Andy and his wife and co-worker Julie, married to each other and to Livewire for 35 years decided, "We cannot just walk away from here". A protest organised by young people, and a mega-gig with local bands playing for free gave a great day for hundreds of residents of every age, including many parents, and grandparents, some of whom were themselves former club members.

And still the club flourishes, now with an added range of daytime work with individuals and small groups. This includes an employability programme with NEETS (not in employment, education or training) and a variety of activities organised in close conjunction with

## Gym and Trampoline Facilities Bounce Higher at Zero Gravity



Enhanced facilities at Zero Gravity Academy of Gymnastics and Trampoline are the result of a truly successful collective community involvement. A recent drive for fundraising to meet the explosive interest in freestyle, parkour related gymnastics for the local youth community has resulted in funding to allow the construction of a foam pit linked to a further bespoke floor area alongside.

'This was designed as phase 1 to provide the wow factor to attract all age brackets and enable a multi-agility area', claims a spokesperson 'It will allow us to deliver an enhanced service to the local community targeting young and old alike with a youthful disposition and the will to laugh!'

The multi-purpose pit with sunken trampoline and single high bar incorporate

a 'double decker' crawling tunnel with escape route, 'secret' slide and further obstacle tunnel. They add to the already considerable facilities that Zero Gravity offer as a busy recreational and competitive club with close links to local schools and community organisations. They incorporate a large soft indoor play area enabling varied and fun combinations for holiday and party activities and form the home of Saltash Karate Club.

Finance for the enhanced

facilities was achieved by intense fundraising activities. Especial thanks are due to Bonds Timber and the builder and co-designer Dom McCarthy for financial assistance, and Dartmoor Prison where work on the timber was carried out.

The project was further aided by grant funding from British Gymnastics for the purchase of new dedicated equipment all of which enable the project to be completed a year earlier than originally planned.

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## 'Shared Spaces' for Road Users Should be Saltash's Future

Fore Street, or any High Street, as the centre of a local community is, for the first time in history, no longer a functional necessity. With the increasing internet shopping and the building of out of town shopping centres there is no longer any need for residents to visit their friendly neighbourhood main shopping street.

For such as Saltash Fore Street to survive, therefore it can only flourish if people wish to visit it and enjoy the local shopping experience. They no longer have to go to it.

This was the message put over to Saltash by consultant Ben Hamilton-Baillie. He gave a presentation to members of the town's neighbourhood plan 'moving about' team, who had invited him to carry out a survey of the town and in particular its main 'spine road' from Waterside through Fore Street and out to Carkeel. Town Councillors were also invited to attend the

presentation.

In demonstrating how Saltash in general and Fore Street in particular could remain a viable and attractive venue for business and for a shopping experience Mr. Hamilton-Baillie emphasised the 'shared spaces' scheme, initiated in the Netherlands and now being introduced into Britain. By doing away with a plethora of road signs and traffic lights, as well as the sharp division between road and sidewalk, a far more friendly and welcoming environment proves attractive to residents and visitors. The perceived dangers of pedestrians,

cyclists and drivers sharing a space do not, experience has proved, materialise. Drivers automatically adapt to the environment, proceed at appropriate speeds and give way to other road users.

The illustrated presentation concentrated on Dutch and French examples of shared space as well as that recently introduced to the Cheshire town of Poynton. Here an enhanced environment has not resulted in any increase in road traffic accidents but has noticeably enhanced business with increase in value of business premises.

A similar scheme in

Saltash, it was suggested, could include dismantling road humps in Fore Street, with instead coloured paving indicating 'courtesy crossings', as well as removal of traffic lights and the various bollards, barriers and signs along the way. Burraton Cross, Likely to see an increase in traffic as Broadmoor develops could see traffic proceed more safely and speedily were the lights replaced by shared space and differently marked road surfacing allowing a low speed free flowing format.

Within the town the attractive flower beds and boats would be enhanced if they were not hidden behind street furniture and the attractive facility of Victoria Gardens could be connected to the street. Further down the continuity of Fiore Street to the Waterfront should be clearly evident.

'It is always painful for a town to grow', Mr Hamilton-Baillie concluded. 'But it done well this can result in an improved environment which couples with increased spending power and economic benefit to the whole community. If this connects with the town then people will enjoy the town centre experience, otherwise residents will have no need or wish to visit it, will go to Plymouth or elsewhere and the town centre will suffer.'

## Essa Files

I am writing this entry beer in hand on a lovely winter's evening from Ayer's Rock resort within sight of the rock itself, more or less slap bang in the middle of Australia. I say this not to make you envious of my holiday (although I can assure you that it's awesome) but because three things about being in Australia have made me think particularly hard about my topic for this month, which is immigration.

The first is that when westerners first arrived in Australia they declared it to be 'Terra Nullis' or 'land belonging to no-one'. This let them totally ignore the aboriginal population who had lived here thousands of years, and instead legally claim the land for the crown. Secondly for most of its modern history Australia has had a less than welcoming attitude to what were officially considered the 'wrong sort' of immigrants (to give you a clue, this was known as the 'white Australia' policy). Thirdly, with a population less than a third of Britain's and the sixth biggest land size of any country, there is currently a powerful political movement rallying around the idea that Australia is 'full'.

I have to admit that this bothers me. Firstly, it bothers me in itself - that people (certainly not all but enough) can be hypocritical enough to take a country from its original owners as immigrants themselves, racially discriminate against other immigrants, and then declare immigration a problem.

Secondly it bothers me because I'm not convinced that the UK is a whole lot better on immigration. We did well conquering other countries and are one of the wealthiest countries in the world but seem to have a growing objection to those,

much less well off than ourselves, who want to join us - not to conquer but to work hard and build a better life.

Now if you're wondering what this has to do with Saltash specifically, and also wondering if I'm getting at you personally, the answer to the first question is to read the

Mayor's column last month for an account of how one of her daughters, as the child of an immigrant parent, was (mis)treated by someone in Saltash following the referendum vote. The answer to the second question is that I hope I don't mean you, but only you can know that.

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## Saltash Remembers Centenary of The Somme

Three blasts of a whistle resounded across Saltash's Alexandra Square early on a July morning. They marked the centenary of the exact time when a similar sound had summoned men of the British Army 'Over the Top' at the commencement of the Battle of the Somme.

The simple ceremony by Saltash's War Memorial organised by local members of the Royal British Legion was in honour of the million or so men who were to lose their lives including almost twenty thousand Commonwealth troops, who died on that first day. For many of them the whistle blasts would have been the last sounds that they heard save for the rattling of the machine guns which mowed them down from enemy trenches which had supposedly been destroyed during a week of continuous allied artillery fire but which were soon proved all too well to have survived this onslaught.

Eight men from Saltash were known to have died on the Somme. On the Sunday of the centenary, following a communion service in the adjacent St. Nicholas Church, the names of those eight were read out as banners were lowered over the memorial and the Mayor laid a wreath in memory of them and the other victims of the Somme.

In the meantime those who walked down Fore Street on the anniversary of 'The blackest day in the history of the British Army' saw not only

wooden commemorative crosses in the street's planters, but had the eerie experience of meeting with apparent soldiers of World War I in full uniform. They each silently handed out cards each one of which gave the name, age, rank and regiment of one who died on that sunny summer's day a century ago.

### Care Home Change to Flats

An application to convert a former care home to ten flats has been recommended for approval by Saltash Town Council.

Kingsleigh House in Culver Road, adjacent to the Co-op car park, has been empty for several years and has been boarded up to prevent vandalism.

It is a listed building and the grounds contain historic stonework including part of the old town well from Lower Fore Street (other fragments being in the town museum and by St. Nicholas Church.)

The recommendation for listed building consent to carry out the conversion was forwarded on to Cornwall Council.

July was a busy month in politics which saw us have a new Prime Minister. I was very sorry to see David Cameron stand down and was one of the MPs who wrote to him asking him not to stand down. That said I do understand his reasons but would like to thank him for all that he has done for the country. He was the Leader of my Party when I was first selected to be a candidate in 2006. We worked together and he took us first into coalition and then into government. When he became Prime Minister he inherited a very weak economy. He and George Osborne took the tough decisions to turn the economy around and to get the country back on track.

I am very encouraged by the start of our new Prime Minister, Theresa May, has made so far. I feel she has created a very balanced Cabinet and recently saw her first Prime Minister's Questions. I felt privileged to be able to witness myself the truly excellent job that she did. I feel very optimistic that she will be a great Prime Minister.

In the reshuffle I found out that I am to continue in my role as Parliamentary Private Secretary to Andrea

## SHERYLL MURRAY MP WRITES...



Leadsom. This will be to support her in her new role as Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs. This will mean that I will be part of the Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) Departmental Team. This will allow me to take issues directly to the department rather than having to raise matters in the Chamber.

In July I was pleased to welcome local Cornwall Councillors to Westminster to meet with the Secretary of State for Transport, Rt Hon Patrick McLoughlin MP. We discussed the many issues over junctions on the A38 between Carkeel Roundabout and Bodmin. I am pleased to work with local Councillors of various political affiliations to try to secure support for the upgrading of this route in the future. The Secretary of State listened to our message and I am hopeful that we could see some improvements to the

junctions along the route, especially at the Menheniot and Looe junctions. Whilst finances are tight, I hope we have ensured these improvements are on the list for the future.

Defence was very high on the Political Agenda in Parliament last month when we held the vote on the renewal of our Continuous At Sea Nuclear Deterrent. I fully support the Government's proposals for this renewal and am shocked that people who speak against it often make statements like "we will not use it". What they do not fully understand is that our Trident programme is in use 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. You only need to look at the name. It is a deterrent.

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A sunny summer's Sunday saw Saltash folk and families gather to enjoy a community picnic in the park at Victoria Gardens.

Food and drink were shared, children played together in the sunshine while adults socialised as period music from local vocalist Peter Manic wafted across the gardens.

The event was organised by local residents David and Katy Bennett who formulated it as means to bring together the community, fragmented by the recent Brexit controversies, and as residents relaxed in the July sunshine the world described in the Sunday papers as filled with party politics, splits, terrorism and revolution, seemed a universe away.

'This is a very special time to chill out and importantly to come together within ones community', concluded Mayor Hilary Frank who attended with husband Shojiro and two young daughters.

**Conundrum Corner**

Taking the initial letter to the one-word answers to the following eight questions can you re-arrange them to make a local place name?

- 1 What type of flower is the Snapdragon? (11)
- 2 What was the name of the Cat in the Dandy Comic? (5)
- 3 "I felt the knife in my hand and she laughed no more" is a line from which Tom Jones song? (6)
- 4 The Great Barrier Reef is situated off which coast of Australia? (4)
- 5 What relation were Huey, Dewey and Louie to Donald Duck? (7)
- 6 Lights is a Butcher's term for which part of an animal? (5)
- 7 Which Scottish city is situated on the North Sea coast between the mouths of the Rivers Don and Dee? (8)
- 8 In the book "1984" what were used to torment Winston Smith in Room 101? (4)

Answers on Page 12

**Fire Service Heroes Remembered in St. Stephens Churchyard**

The word hero is often overused but at a moving memorial service at St. Stephens's six true Saltash heroes who volunteered and gave their lives for others was celebrated in fitting style.

Seventy-five years ago when crowds were fleeing the blazing inferno that was Plymouth on the worst night of its blitz, six volunteer firemen were heading the other way, into the heart of the burning city with bombs exploding around them.

Saltash's fire fighters had just a converted taxi towing a water tank and the courageous hearts of the six men riding with it. Tragically as they passed down King Street Devonport they hit a land mine and perished instantly.

The grandson of one of these fireman Francis Brooking, Barry Brooking, organised the memorial service and spoke movingly of his grandfather who had completed a full day's work in Torpoint when the shout came up and he volunteered for the sixth place in the car. The supper that his wife had prepared for him was never eaten.

Another volunteer, John Stanlake had wanted to join the army with his two brothers but he was in a 'reserved occupation' and had to remain

in Saltash and work on the family farm. He died in Devonport, his brothers returned unscathed.

The Brooking and Stanlake families were represented at the memorial service, as was that of fireman Bernard Jasper. That of Alfred Crapp were unable to attend. The families of Stanley Crabb and Leslie Tibbs have yet to be identified.

The families were joined at the graveside ceremony by Local Councillors led by Mayor Bill Phillips, by current firemen and by young fire cadets. A lone piper who played the lament led them and Rev. Michael Goodland conducted the service. Fireman and fire cadets laid a wreath and Barry Brooking especially thanked retained fireman Mike Parker for all he had done to ensure that their gallant predecessors were suitably honoured. He added a hope that the graves might be tidied and improved to create a focal point for future generations who might wish to visit a memorial to true selfless heroism.

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## Chernobyl Children Share Fun with Fire Cadets

Ten Belorussian children from the nuclear disaster zone surrounding Chernobyl splashed around under the hoses of Saltash Fire Brigade sharing fun with their hosts, our own young Saltash Fire Cadets.

They were participating in the annual visit for children who still suffer the effects of radiation from the 1986 nuclear accident. Four weeks enjoying the pure Cornish Air add years to lives otherwise shortened by radiation sickness. Saltash Fire Brigade always hosts a welcoming party.

Their Belorussian translator explained 'the children come from families who cannot afford to take them away from home. They have here a good chance to rest abroad which they could never have otherwise.'



That morning they had marvelled at the sight of the sea for the first time on a boat trip up the Tamar. Other treats in store included visits to Eden, Diggerland, Morwellham Quay, the Donkey Park and the Maize Maze. Less fun perhaps, but importantly, the children would each have an inspection at Specsavers in

Saltash and a Tavistock dentist, with any glasses and dental treatment provided at no cost.

The annual visit is a greatly anticipated treat for the children suffering the effect of the world's greatest nuclear disaster. The amount who can come is limited only by the host families in Saltash and Plymouth willing to welcome,

feed and accommodate children, who are happy to share a room with a local same sex child.

Any couple or family willing to take in a child for two to four weeks next July and August is asked to contact Vanessa on 07901 969632 or e-mail

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## A Cornish Giant Arises



Photo Martin Lister

Among the many visitors to Cornwall this summer a ten metre tall man created especial interest. During his progress from Tavistock to the far west the Man Engine paused at Liskeard, home of Michael Loam, who introduced the eponymous man engine to the Cornish miners, saving many lives of miners descending to the depths.

Thousands packed Liskeard to enjoy a variety of live music and other entertainments before the Man Engine 'Awakened' and rose to his full height in a cloud of smoke and to a whirl of engine wheels.

## Carkeel Clean Up Promised

A fitting gateway to the town which should encourage visitors to turn into Saltash and discover the town, is how local Councillor John Brady hopes Carkeel roundabout will appear following clearing up work that he has sought to put in place.

He has persuaded Tesco, who own the former car showroom site south of the roundabout, to fund Saltash Town Council towards cleaning up their site through the town's contractor.

Similarly Highways England have agreed to the Town Council cutting back the verges along the approach roads and Cormac has agreed to the cutting of the grass alongside Waitrose and the Grenada Service Area.

The work is due to be done in late July and again in August so that Summer visitors to Cornwall will be encouraged to turn off and come into the town, anticipates Councillor Brady.

### Conundrum Answers:

Answers: 1 Antrithium 2 Korke 3 Delilah 4 East 5 Nephews 6 Lungs 7 Aberdeen 8 Rats. Rearranged the letters spell the Village of Landrake.

## Fowl Language?

Are Saltash poultry more inclined to panic than those elsewhere.

'Er's rinning roun' laike a Zaltash Vowl' is a traditional West Country description of a person in a panic according to the Report and Transactions of the Devonshire Society. The expression was picked up from there by a member of Saltash Old Cornwall Society which included among its objectives the recording and preservation of Cornish sayings.

Has anybody heard the expression used in Saltash or elsewhere? If so, please let the Observer or the Secretary of the Old Cornwall Society know (01752 842404)

More significantly does anybody know why our local fowls should be especially prone to runs around like headless chickens.

One Saltash Old Cornwall Society member was, however familiar with a similar expression which she had heard several times, 'has a temper like a Torpoint chicken'. Cornish chickens clearly have their local characteristics.

## Cemetery Wall Repair Judged Inadequate

The wall of the cemetery at St. Stephens Church by Kellywhithe House is dangerous and liable to collapse, the town's burial board has been informed. A local resident expressed concern regarding the safety of the temporary shoring braces erected there.

The Town Council subsequently obtained three quotations for repairing the wall and agreed to accept the cheapest of these.

The resident however continued to be concerned. 'The low quotation suggests that the work will not be done adequately. It would be a patch-up job and would need to be done again', she told Town Councillors.

A surveyor has inspected the site and reported on what needs to be done, she was assured.

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