



# SALTASH AND DISTRICT OBSERVER

Your only truly "local" newspaper ...

July 2010 - Issue 216

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## THE SUN SHONE, THE CROWDS CAME TO SHARE REGATTA FUN

Colourful Medieval pomp and pageantry opened this year's Saltash Regatta and the sun glistened on the armour of the Black Prince as he led his maiden and an assortment of burghers, priests and wenchers through the town. The procession, including Wreckers Morris and Samba Jam band, wound its way down to the ancient Waterside where the sun sparkled on the river ready for a packed programme of nautical and shore-based events.

In a re-enactment of an early 20th century pageant our Mayor Cllr. Adam Killea, in character as a medieval Saltash burgher, formally welcomed the Black Prince, first Duke of Cornwall, back fresh from victory in battle, to Cornwall. The Prince, played by Town Crier Brian Whipp with his wife Monica, proceeded to thank the Saltash wenchers who had rowed him across the river and in gratitude, in accordance with local legend, awarded the borough the ferry rights for thirty years.

Following the pageant Michael Taylor of BBC Radio Cornwall was invited to open the regatta. Bringing greetings from all at Radio Cornwall he noted that weatherman Kevin Thomas had got it right and

all was set fair for the full weekend. He thanked all involved in the organisation of this major event which brings pleasure to hundreds, if not thousands, before declaring it open.

Soon the Wreckers Morris Men were dancing, Braga Tango were playing and 'Sevenoaks and Pontypool' were singing. This began a full two day programme of entertainment simultaneous in two venues at Waterside and Jubilee Green.

Between the two a fire juggler, the brilliant Unicycle Sam and others entertained those pausing amidst the lively stalls that lined the street. Cirque du Ciel stiltwalkers promenaded and a miniature train took

young visitors alongside the green.

As well as a modern roundabout and bouncy castle youngsters were entertained by a traditional coconut shy and a 1940's roundabout still going strong. Daring young people could whirl around in 'The Human Gyroscope', the more sedate enjoyed a juggling workshop.

Throughout the two days the sun shone and the crowds came. Stalls did good business especially those offering ice cream and cold drinks, but the various arts and crafts and other stalls packing the green also attracted much interest.

"I think this might be the best regatta of recent years, all worked

well, the stalls did good business and many sold out on Saturday and had to replenish stocks for Sunday", Chairman of the Regatta Committee Joe Ellison told the 'Observer'. "It is an excellent encouragement to us to keep up these standards for next year".

**Right:** Lynn found a Frenchman, we haven't seen her since!

**Middle:** It was serious competition between the ladies & gentlemen of Waitrose, can you imagine the chat back at the canteen!

**Bottom:** Tough to beat! The Roman Rowers



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## Sheryll Murray MP expresses her thanks to emergency services

**S**heryll Murray, MP for South East Cornwall, has expressed her thanks to the emergency services of the constituency.

Whilst on an "Insight Patrol" with a local policeman on Friday night, learning first hand about the job they undertake, they were called to a burning boat on the banks of the Tamar and reports of explosions.

Sheryll was on hand to see how all the emergency services worked together. Our escorts, the police, were on hand to deal with any disruption and to make immediate enquiries. The fire service was on hand to put out the fire and deal with any dangers. The MOD police were first on the scene – this, after all, could have been an attack on the dockyard. The coastguard attended in case there was any river based issues and the ambulance was on hand in case anyone got hurt.

As it turned out it was just a small dinghy on the beach that had caught alight with a

couple of small gas cylinders upon it for cooking.

In a statement Sheryll said, "This was a great example of how our emergency services worked together. They were all on hand and made sure the situation was dealt with, regardless of the very remote location. I want to thank them all for the excellent job they do and for always being there even on a Friday night when many have finished for the week."

### May Fair AGM

The May Fair Committee have their AGM at the Shado Centre on Tuesday July 13th at 7.00p.m. We are keen to get feedback from anyone who attended May Fair and are always looking to get volunteer for the day itself help, especially as the event gets bigger and better every year. Anyone who can't attend can contact the Committee at [www.saltashmayfair.co.uk](http://www.saltashmayfair.co.uk) Due to the timing of this event not all papers will be out in time, we have covered it for the majority.

## FORDER FLOOD DEFENCES DESCRIBED

The many who walk the footpath alongside Latchbrook Leat may be unaware that they pass close by an impoundment reservoir holding up to 20,000 cubic metres of water.

This seems small compared to Burrator's 4.4 million cubic litres, but it forms a vital defence for the properties downstream around Forder.

The work done by the environment agency in flood protection in the South West, and in particular in the Latchbrook Leat was described by one of their civil engineers, Richard Dunstan, to an interested meeting of Trematon Womens' Institute. The agency is the drainage authority for all the country's main rivers, of which the Latchbrook counts as one, lesser streams are controlled by local authorities.

The agency is concerned with reducing flood risk by building and operating flood defences and issuing warnings when flooding is anticipated. Mr. Dunstan illustrated some of the agency's major South West works including the Sutton Harbour tidal gate in Plymouth and similar gate in Polperro and Truro. Elsewhere the agency is concerned in reversing past work and destroying flood defences to go back to nature and re-create a wildlife habitat..

The Latchbrook flood defences were created in 1989 to contain increased run off from the Latchbrook estate then under construction. With a dam four metres high it impounds water up to 320 metres upstream, controlling its release down towards Forder creek to prevent inundation. Recent work there, which some may have noticed, has included improvements to the screen which prevents logs and other debris flowing into the reservoir and which is inspected and cleaned fortnightly, or weekly in winter. The dam crest has been improved and levelled to control flow and a new access road allows entry all year. Information on the impoundment has been improved, with a constant check now kept on flow.

The talk was much appreciated by all W.I. members present, especially those living on the Forder flood plain.

## CHAMBER CONSIDER RESPONSE TO SUPERMARKET PLANS

**D**iscussions have taken place between Saltash and District Chamber of Commerce officers and Tesco planners concerning the proposed third supermarket at Carkeel.

The chairman and treasurer had put the anticipated concerns of their members to the Tesco management and their consultants prior to the formal application for planning permission being submitted by the supermarket giant, the chamber's monthly meeting was told.

Chamber officers had also been present during much of the public consultation which took place over two days in the St. Nicholas church rooms. They had been keen to gauge local opinion before making the chamber's position known.

'We as a chamber representing local Fore Street traders and other businesses will be closely monitoring the plans put forward and considering the best response in order to support existing business in and around the town', chamber chairman William Cotton commented.

## LOSS OF BOAT PARK AREA OPPOSED

Proposals that the boat and trailer park on Saltash Waterside next to the "Boatman Inn" should be lost to the town for up to two years are strongly opposed by Saltash Town Council.

Once major works on repainting the Royal Albert Bridge get under way scaffolding will have to be mounted. Network Rail requested of Cornwall Council that they should be allowed to place scaffolding on the public highway and moreover use the boat and trailer park as a storage space for scaffolding during the time that the work continues.

It is anticipated that scaffolding should go up this October and work will be completed by March 2013.

The loss of the valuable facility, much used by those launching craft from the adjacent former ferry slipway, is unacceptable, Town Councillors agreed.

Network Rail already own an alternative site for storage, immediately under the Bridge and until recently leased to the 'Boatman Inn,' Councillor Joe Ellison pointed out. It was agreed that the Council should object strongly to the loss of the boat park and suggest the alternative site already owned by Network Rail might be utilised.

## GOLF HELPS ANDREW TO BEGGARS' OPERA



**A** young Saltash Thespian who has been performing on the local stage since aged ten has received a grant from the proceeds of a golf championship to help see him on his way to performing in a major show.

Many will have seen Andrew Deacon as a Saltash Youngstager perform in a number of shows. Now aged 21 he has joined other local amateur groups, studied drama and musical theatre at Plymouth's City College and received a national diploma in performing arts with

distinction.

As we reported in our May 'Observer' Andrew has successfully auditioned for a new adaptation of 'The Beggars' Opera' based in Surrey and to be performed at Bracknell Arts Centre. He still needed however to raise £900 to cover tuition, travel and living costs.

The Saltash Open Golf Championship an annual fund-raising challenge, received a request from Andrew and it was decided to award him £200 from the 2009 proceeds. Saltash Town Councillor Bruce Reid made the presentation to Andrew.

CORNWALL COUNCIL



& our PL12 community

For Observer readers

From Councillor Colin Riches

St Stephens Ward



The life of a Cornwall Councillor is quite topsyturvy on occasion (well, most of the time actually). This week I attended a meeting of the Environment & Economy Overview & Scrutiny Committee - quite a mouthful I know but it does what it says on the tin - and the subject to be scrutinised was the Highways Winter Service Review. There we were in a sweltering room in New County Hall trying to concentrate on a report emanating from the depths of the coldest winter since 1978/79. There were some interesting statistics produced, if interesting is a word that can be applied to statistics - and as I am someone who has been known to go to the occasional quiz - they gripped my attention.

Cornwall Council used over 18,000 tonnes of salt spread over 80,000 km (50,000miles) of road. In a normal year the average is 6,900 tonnes spread on 39,000 km (24,375miles) of road. Further difficulties were faced because all available highway service resources had to be deployed to clear snow and ice from roads, footways and car parks. The cost of the winter maintenance in 2009/10 was £1.85 million ; this is more than double the average for the previous four years.

My personal opinion is that the staff rose to the occasion and did a good job in keeping the main roads open in very difficult circumstances. I know there were many problems on side roads but the priority road network, which is based primarily upon traffic volume and importance, was treated before and after freezing conditions set in. The priority network

comprises 25 routes across the county covering a total of 1400km (875miles). Seventy-five per cent of all traffic movements are carried on these priority routes. There are another 5,900km (3,687miles) of roads which are not in the priority network, such as side roads on estates and rural lanes. These are the bits we all remember because that's where we live, and most of these urban areas (I'm not saying all), did eventually get treated. There is a list of sites which are strategically important, such as fire stations and hospitals, and these too are given high priority. It is proposed to include all secondary schools in this list (at the risk of antagonising our teenagers who no doubt, because of adverse weather conditions, would enjoy the odd freebie day from their scholastic endeavours).

Now the government budget has made things a bit fraught on the finance front and more than £10 million has been cut from Cornwall's Central Government Grant. The Environment, Planning and Economy operation accounts for 4% of the Cornwall budget but is expected to furnish 25% of the savings! Coupled with economies which have to be made because of other Government directives I fear there are interesting times ahead. I hope you can see the enormity of the problem that faces Cornwall Council. I and my Cornwall Council colleagues will try and keep you informed of developments.

**Cecily Baker Charity**

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## FROM THE MAYOR'S PARLOUR....

I must begin my first column by thanking my predecessor Sue Hooper for the huge amount of work she has put in for the town – this year and in the last several decades. I would also like to thank all of those kind enough to offer good wishes for my own year in office. It's a great honour to be elected Mayor of our wonderful town – part of officially the best postcode in the UK.

I would also like to welcome Debbie Ashton, Assistant to the Tavistock Town Clerk, who is helping us out as temporary Clerk for a day a week, until Ray Lane, currently working with Chippenham Town Council, can join as our new full-time clerk in early December. I'll introduce him in more detail in my September column.

Since taking office in May 11th until June 24th Merryn and I have carried out 26 engagements: within Saltash we have had (in May) the Mayor Choosing, the visit to the Guildhall by the saltash.net School Council, Circus Starr in Longstone Park, the BCC 50th Birthday Dance, The Emergency Services and Road Awareness Day, The Forder Fete, the Saltash-Plougastel Twinners' Dinner, the Saltash Sailing Club reception for yachts from Plougastel and the Saltash Heritage AGM

We have also had, in June, Opening the Memory Cafe at Burraton Church, Greeting the Burraton Eco-Kids on their Green Survey of the Guildhall, the Cornwall Cadet Force Awards Evening at China Fleet, opening Ethical Living Kernow in Fore Street, the Saltash Regatta, the Friends of St Barnabus Hospital Summer Fete, Assembly for visitors to saltash.net from Nigeria, reception for the opening of VanEssa in Fore St, and the Saltash College Adults Awards Evening.

Outside of Saltash we have attended a Visitor's Day at St Mawgan, Civic Services in

Bodmin, Truro, Wadebridge and Looe, A Reception for the RNLI in Truro, The Race for Life in Liskeard & a presentation by Brigadier Stearns RM in Truro

I imagine you'll understand why I'm not going into more detail about all 26 engagements, but thanks to everyone who has made us feel so welcome. I would like to pick out one particular beautifully sunny but busy day, 23rd May, when we attended three wonderful events in Saltash! After driving back from the Bodmin Civic Service we went up to Warfelton for the ESRAD: this event involved an incredible amount of work to organise and was a fantastic and very busy event with a huge number of interesting and exciting displays, as well as 3,000 motorbikes! The Forder Fete was great fun and in such an incredible setting by the river – the site of my wife Merryn and your reporter Martin trying on ladies hats together will not be soon forgotten! Reports that the jellyfish in the river caused me to jump back three feet have also been greatly overstated. Finally, in the evening, a wonderful and entertaining Twinners' dinner – great food, great company and excellent belly dancing (including by our own very brave Councillor David Yates). I would encourage any of you with an interest in travel and good company to consider joining the Twinners – I have been fortunate enough over the last two months to visit Plougastel and to help welcome two groups of Plougastel visitors over to Saltash – at the Twinners and the sailing club. It's a great organisation for the whole family and well worth finding out more about.

Something else I'd like to tell you about this month is a project that the Town Council is working on with Saltash Heritage and Saltash Old Cornwall Society. We want to



## THANKS FOR THE MEMORY CAFE

start Saltash' own 'Blue Plaque Scheme' to commemorate the great and the good who have lived or worked in Saltash. We intend to apply for funding to put up a dozen or so plaques: we already have fourteen suggested names but would like you to send us some more suggestions: our local history experts will gather any historical evidence they know about, and a panel will then look at the evidence and decide who to commemorate. Possible names already suggested include George Carter Bignell, Dame Moura Lympny, Lt-Col. William P. Drury, Henry Martin, William Odgers VC, Philip E.B. Porter, Ferdinand Keast, Ann Glanville, Gordon Campbell VC and Admiral of the Fleet Sir Henry Jackson as well as the four 'Australia men' Evan Nepean, Nicholas Nepean, James Hobbs & James Penn Boucaut.

All of these will still need to be reviewed in light of evidence as to where they lived etc. If the building where they lived or worked aren't still standing, or the owners would rather we didn't display a plaque there, we'll try to find an alternative site nearby. Please email me – adam\_killeya@yahoo.co.uk – if you have any other suggestions.

Have a great month and let's hope some of the nice weather we've had lasts!

A new facility for those suffering memory loss together with their carers is being pioneered in Cornwall and being watched with interest from throughout the country.

Now Saltash has its own 'memory cafe' open to all who have need of it.

It was formally opened, at Burraton Wesleyan Chapel, by Mayor Councillor Adam Killeya who cut the tape and subsequently the celebratory cake. "This is a wonderful facility for Saltash, one in which Cornwall is leading the way and the whole country is eager to see how it goes", the Mayor stated.

"Memory cafes are developing fast in Cornwall", confirmed volunteer Brian Davis who added "I wish memory cafes had been around when my late wife needed them. They provide what I call the "four S's", socialising, support, sharing and signposting towards appropriate professional help when required. They are all

## PENNIES FROM HEAVEN?

Every year it rains pennies on Saltash youngsters when, at the formal Mayor and Mayoress traditionally throw fruit and warm pennies from the Guildhall window to children gathered below.

While watching this, Saltash Observer Ace Reporter Martin Lister who, contrary to vicious rumour does not push the children aside to grab the money, noted that a number of coins fall short to land on a cornice below the window.

Spotting Deputy Mayor Colin Oakes doing some general repair work on the Guildhall Martin persuaded him to erect his ladder to investigate how much there might be there. A grand total of fifty-one pence, some of it tarnished and showing signs of lying there for some years was discovered

The coins were returned to the current Mayor Councillor Adam Killeya as 'seed corn' for his Mayor's Charity Fund.

locally run and customer driven".

Teresa Parsons, Alzheimer's Society development worker for Cornwall added, "I am greatly excited to be here today working with the society". We would not be here today without the compassion and commitment of the volunteers who worked hard to set it up".

All those suffering memory loss problems together with their carers are welcome to attend on 14th July from 2 – 4 pm at Burraton Chapel on Liskeard Road, and on the second Wednesday of each month at the same time thereafter.

For more information call 01752 845324.

## NON-ATTENDING COUNCILLOR'S SEAT FALLS VACANT

A Town Councillor who fails to attend any council meetings for a period of six month's automatically loses the Council seat after this time.

Accordingly, the Town Council Seat for Pill Ward previously occupied by former Councillor Mrs Fran. Knight is now vacant. If ten of the Pill electorate seek a by-election one will have to be called. Otherwise the Town Councillors can co-opt a member to replace her.

The Mayor, Councillor Adam Killeya, confirmed that he would write to Mrs Knight, who served a year as Deputy Mayor, thanking her for past services to the town.

## PICTURES FROM PLOUGASTEL

Saltash's Breton twin town Plougastel-Daoulas has presented our town council with two attractive pictures to be hung in the Mayor's Parlour.

One is a contemporary sailing scene, the other a reproduction of a historic picture of Plougastel's strawberry pickers.

This follows a recent highly successful exchange visit from which the Breton guests returned with presents from Saltash including Dartington glass and a "Cornish Clock" which tells the time "Dreckly."

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The Architect Designs are Finished, Planning Approval received and Competitive Tenders Obtained. We now need your Support, Donations or Help in raising the £200,000 which is required for the demolition of the existing Church Room and the new build to the completion shown on the drawings, which are available for viewing in the St Stephens by Saltash Church. The proposed Community Hall will be a great asset to the local community and area. Grants have been applied for and are still being applied for, but we only have until September 2010, to accept the competitive tender received.

We require your help please..... In any way

Please contact Mr Gordon Richards, Volunteer Grants Officer

Telephone 01752 842424

## FORE STREET OFFICES BECOME FLATS

A policy of retaining all available office space in the town in order to provide employment opportunities post recession has been set aside by Saltash Town Council.

A previous decision to refuse permission for the conversion of office space above a Fore Street shop into two self contained flats has been reversed.

The offices have been empty and marketed with two agents for seven years with no interest shown, Town Councillors were told. While it is still hoped that future regeneration of Fore Street will create a demand for office space there is plenty of alternative office area still available above shops in the town. Accordingly the application for conversion into flats was recommended for approval.

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# Saltash Gateway CIC News

The Saltash Gateway Community Interest Company (CIC) was formed in July 2006 following the success of the Market and Coastal Towns initiative and the completion of a Strategic Action Plan for Saltash and the PL12 area. The plan contained 17 projects, distilled from many more which arose during a long and thorough consultation exercise. Since 2006, the CIC Directors and Members have been working with Saltash Town Council and local Government Agencies to progress the projects.

Community Interest Companies are not charities or charitable trusts but ordinary registered companies at Companies House. They are however, subject to special CIC regulations which ensure that the company operates as a 'not for profit' social enterprise. Gateway CIC is a company limited by guarantee with no shares, managed by a Board comprising 12 volunteer Directors, with a voluntary membership of some 120 local people. Our web site carries our meeting minutes, finance reports and further information about our Strategic Action Plan and current projects. ([www.saltashgatewaycic.co.uk](http://www.saltashgatewaycic.co.uk))

Funding is attracted from a number of sources to enable the projects to be taken forward. These are principally Saltash Town Council, the Regional Development Agency, Cornwall Council and several grant giving bodies including the Community Foundation 'Grassroots fund' and the Tamar Bridge and Torpoint Ferry Committee.

Since 2006, the company has worked to create the 'arts trail' in Saltash, including the Silver Street mural, the Fore Street 'dock dung' seat, the Turner painting on the waterfront and in the heritage museum, several works of art, Victoria park entrance and about to be commissioned, an audio trail using CD players available from the Guildhall. We have also administered several studies on behalf of Government Agencies including a feasibility study into the regeneration of Fore Street, a Tourism and Marketing survey, a viability study into the potential development of Broadmoor Farm, a PL12 Transport survey and a South East Cornwall Business Study looking at the needs of local businesses. The Saltash Card was funded initially through the CIC with a 'Foundation grant' and continues to increase in popularity.

The CIC also works in partnership with the Waterfront Residents Association on specific projects such as the recently successful lottery bid to redevelop Elwell Woods and erect a Celtic Cross at the 'Gateway' to Cornwall. Three of our Directors sit on the NHS Cornwall Saltash Health Strategy Group, looking at health and care services in the area. We are planning to set up a new community voice on health issues in conjunction with the Strategy Group.

The recently created Gateway Community Network Area which encompasses PL12 and the Torpoint and Rame areas, has a manager based part time in Saltash. The CIC share facilities at the Belle Vue Road offices and continue to work

closely with the manager as projects develop in the wake of the Cornwall Unitary Authority start up.

Like many organisations set up to serve their community, the CIC depends totally upon people who can bring time, energy and skills to it's projects. At present, we have vacancies for Directors and elsewhere in this edition you can find a notice, inviting interested people to contact us. The Directors meet once a month and every third month is a members open meeting at the Guildhall, the next being our AGM on 21st July at 7pm. Readers are welcome to attend.

The Fore Street Regeneration work will be brought to Public Consultation in the early autumn and we hope readers will look at the proposals jointly worked up by the CIC, Town Council, Chamber of Commerce and others and give us the benefit of your views. The principal ideas are to create themed Street Markets with art, music and drama, improve the 'appearance' of Fore Street and create a Town Square, possibly in the Alexandra Square area. These are ideas for consultation following considerable research and 'homework' by the team and if generally supported, will progress from the autumn to plans for action.

If you would like to support the CIC as a member, at no cost to yourselves, please join us on line, via a letter to our office address, 18 Belle Vue Road, Saltash, Cornwall, PL12 6ES or e mail to [admin@saltashgatewaycic.com](mailto:admin@saltashgatewaycic.com).

## Saltash Gateway Community Interest Company



### LIKE TO BE INVOLVED ??

**Gateway CIC is a 'not for profit' company working directly with Saltash Town Council, Government Agencies and others on Strategic Plans for the Town. We have vacancies for Directors, a voluntary position on our Board. Applicants should be enthusiastic in support for growth and sustainability in Saltash through 'social enterprise' and bring some or all of the following qualities;**

- time to commit to the company for meetings and for leading a project
- business/commercial experience
- skills in financial management
- some understanding of the workings of the Town and Cornwall Councils
- experience as a member of a team
- experience in fundraising
- good communication skills

### INTERESTED ??

**Contact: Les Williams on 07873 579429 or e mail: [admin@saltashgatewaycic.com](mailto:admin@saltashgatewaycic.com).**

## REGATTA ACTION ON THE WAVES

Warm sunshine on the Saturday, hot on the Sunday and enough wind to fill the sails ensured excellent conditions on the water for Saltash Regatta 2010.

Throughout the two days the crowds who thronged the attractions ashore could gaze out on pilot gig boats speeding to their synchronised oars, and colourful dinghies, sails filled with wind. The gig boats in particular made a spectacular sight with well over a hundred crews vying to be fastest in these traditional boats built to speed pilots to incoming merchantmen ships. Royal Naval recruits accepted the equally challenging row for the Prince of Wales cup, a historic trophy recently rediscovered and annually awarded.

Saltash patriots had the chance to cheer on their councillors and their spouses in the "Five Towns Challenge" on Saturday, Looe, the traditional winners, were adversely affected by a new ruling limiting the crew to bone fide councillors and spouses. This year Looe were knocked out in the first round, so were Saltash, leaving Torpoint to take the trophy after a close match with Callington.

Even more excitement was gathering on the Sunday for the "Race to England" in order to plant St. Piran's Cornish flag on foreign soil at St. Budeaux. As ever, an impressive array of fancy-dressed teams took to the river, as ever no holds were barred as boats cut in on each other and oars became weapons of war.

Our editor Mary, as you will read elsewhere in this "Observer" was willingly pressganged to cox for one of the winning crews.

The overall winners, not for the first time, were "Blazing

Paddles", with Saltash Rugby Colts second and French Onion Sellers third. The youth trophy went to Rugby Colts, Blazing Paddles won the fastest time overall award and French Onion Sellers had the best fancy dress award, with an additional trophy for their efforts going to Babcock Bulldogs as ably coxed by Observer editor Mary.



Our very own Malcolm doing his usual grand job



The Pageant



## FETE SHOWS OFF CARE IN THE COMMUNITY

Visitors who thronged to this year's St. Barnabas Hospital Summer Fete found not only a variety of stalls and entertainment but representation from a number of the caring organisations in Saltash.

"This year our theme is care in the community", Chairman of the Hospital League of Friends Joyce Mepsted told those at the fete's opening. We are showing just how much there is to help the individual in and around the town". Organisations included Tamar Mobility, Age Concern, Live at Home Scheme and Rotary's Shelterbox.

"I am delighted to have been asked to open this Summer Fete since the whole community is indebted to the work which St. Barnabas Hospital and its League of Friends do", added the Mayor Cllr. Adam Killeya.

Visitors could then wander among the stalls offering a variety of home made produce and plants, while listening to music from the Saltash town band or enjoying a demonstration of exotic dancing from Eastern Spice.

The proceeds go towards the Friends of the hospital providing a variety of specialist equipment not funded by the N.H.S. Currently funds are intended to go towards enhancing the waiting area for the day clinic.

The hospital not only offers Saltash a minor injuries unit and a theatre for minor operations but a wide service of day clinics of which there are twelve at present and fast increasing in scope.



Frenchmen everywhere! Anyone for onions!

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07971484872 or  
01579 345699  
[marye.crawford@virgin.net](mailto:marye.crawford@virgin.net)

# SaltFest

## Saltash Waterside Music Festival

August 20th - 22nd 2010

Free festival of music for all

Music to suit all tastes and every generation will be enjoyed on the Waterside over an August weekend at "Saltfest", the town's first free festival of music.

The best of local musical talent will be joined by headline bands from 'up country' from the Friday evening, all day Saturday and from midday Sunday over the weekend 20th - 22nd August.

Only for the principal band, the renowned group 'The Damned', who will be playing on Saturday evening in 'Livewire' will there be a charge. Those interested in seeing them perform live in Saltash should phone 843570 as we are told tickets are going fast. But a feast of music from blues and jazz to rock and folk, not forgetting acoustic and classical will be there to be enjoyed for free at a variety of venues around the Waterside. This has been made possible by generous support from Saltash Town Council, Waitrose and Spinnaker. The 'Union Inn', the 'Boatman', Livewire, the Sailing Club and Ashtorre will all be hosting varied music and a marquee on the green will add to the choice of venues between which music lovers of all tastes can stroll to enjoy or perhaps enhance their musical choice. Those who wish to get further into their own sort of music may be able to involve

themselves in a variety of musical workshops planned for the event.

Up to seventy musical performances are promised which will include vocal and choral as well as orchestral and solo and band artists.

A festival atmosphere will be heightened by a number of art and craft stalls and food venues lining the waterside area and the roads will be closed for the weekend performances, making the area family friendly. It is hoped that each and every family member from tots through teens to seniors will be able to experience music that will entertain, excite, relax or possibly expand their pleasure in music. And for a break in the non-stop festival of sound there will be an exhibition showcasing some of the best of local art.

This is very much a 'first' for Saltash - so to be sure of being in on this spectacular addition to our summer of local entertainment be sure to mark down that August weekend. And look out for next month's Saltash Observer when we will bring you more detailed information on the feast of musical entertainment on offer.

### The first Saltfest Music Festival to take place on Saltash Waterside

Apart the headline evening event at Livewire (by advance ticket only) all venues and performances will be FREE TO THE PUBLIC!!

Come along & bring the family!!

See our website for further details

www.saltfest.co.uk



## MIDSUMMER MORN ON CHURCHTOWN FARM

Already by four in the morning a line of light over distant Dartmoor suggests that the short midsummer night is near its end. While one walks the deserted and otherwise silent streets of Saltash in the half light a chorus of birds are celebrating another bright June morning soon to dawn.

Over Churchtown Farm nature reserve the dimly light is giving way to pre-dawn. A thousand rabbits scatter from all around as birdsong builds to a crescendo.

One might see the badgers seeking their setts for a day's rest after a busy night's hunting, youngsters scampering after their elders. Though nightfall is the best time for badger watching, especially if armed with a handful of raw peanuts.

One may, if very fortunate, see otters who have made their own pathway up from the rocky river foreshore through the treebelt to the field beyond. They are however more often identified through their pawprints and their spraints.

More likely to be seen in the gathering light are the deer gently grazing, ever alert to flee at the sound of a footfall. They cross to Churchtown Farm along the railway line or can sometimes be seen swimming the river. The odd dog fox too may be spotted heading home after gorging on a family feast of rabbits.

As one wanders the meadows and hedgerows the sense of smell seems enhanced as a thousand early summer scents assail the nostrils, from the sweetened honeysuckle to the heady odour of the fox.

Smaller mammals scamper underfoot too fast to be identified. Nesting birds loudly proclaim their territory from the top of hedges and the belt of woodland surrounding the creek. In the darkened former quarries below the thick tree cover one can anticipate prehistoric creatures emerging from the primeval ferny vegetation.

Now the first rays of

sunlight illuminate the coastal hills around Craffthole as the Lynher estuary remains in shadow. Then the ancient walls of Ince and Trematon Castles are lit up as the sun's rays proclaim another Cornish morning and larks rise from underfoot and set the sky alive with their singing. Soon the first dog walkers will appear and the working day begins.

You are unlikely to see all of the wildlife described at Churchtown Farm on any one morning. You may see none save for the ubiquitous rabbit, but you may still sense a magic which should remain with you throughout the day and for many days to come.

**Observer Telephone Nos**  
07971484872 or  
01579 345699

## THE RAILWAY HOTEL

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Situated in an area of outstanding natural beauty our school secures high levels of academic success as well as many outstanding sporting and other extra curricular achievements. It offers excellent ICT facilities, state of the art science labs and has an on site farm with world famous pigs and chickens!

The school works very closely with its seven partner primary schools to ensure Year 6 students have a smooth transition to secondary school.

We strive to provide the highest quality education for all children in our care.

We are proud of what our young people achieve and we look forward to welcoming you to our school soon.



## COME AND PARTY ON THE BEACH FOR OBSERVER'S GRAND DUCK RACE DAY



At last summer is clearly here - and our grand beach party and duck race - a highlight of your Saltash and District Observer's 18th Anniversary Charity Bash, is almost upon us.

We are getting increasingly excited as the big day - Sunday 25th July gets closer as, we know from talking to you, are many of you. Especially so as we have now been invited by our fun-loving friends of Wreckers Morris to join with them in bringing about a massive joint fund-raising bash down at Seaton Beach.

Seaton, reached by turning left off the A387 road to Looe at Hensford, is the perfect venue for a fun family afternoon and evening out. Especially so since the owners of the beach café have come on board with us and agreed to provide a venue for our entertainer to perform for your delight.

Come early and enjoy an afternoon on the sandy beach, ideal for families to paddle, picnic, swim and sunbathe.

As the afternoon turns to early evening we anticipate that

our entertainers who have promised their support will be coming together to open an evening to remember. In particular we are thrilled that singer Janet Keith of 'No Strings' whose wide ranging repertoire delighted many of you during our charity evening in the 'Railway Hotel' earlier this year, will be performing exclusively for us and our guests once again.

We are also hoping for some fun especially for the children - wait and see!

Then at around 5.00 pm we will be joined by Wreckers Morris who will be concluding their own busy day of dancing for charity at Seaton. They will have been performing since 10.30 am when they are due to begin outside the 'Edgcombe Arms' at Cremyll, via the 'Inn on the Shore' at Downderry at 11.45, the Monkey Sanctuary at 1 pm, the Copley Arms at Hensford at 2 pm then arriving at Seaton to dance by 'The Smugglers' at 4.30 pm and moving across the beach to join us at 5 pm. They will be joining with the Plymouth Morris Men in their own charity fund raising for Cancer Research.

The duck race will be officially started at 5.30 pm by County Councillor

Richard Pugh, whom we have to thank for clearing any 'red tape' in order to enable this bumper race event to take place. A thousand ducks will be released on the river and upon their frantic race to the sea will depend the fortunes of many of our kind-hearted readers and other friends who have supported us by 'buying a duck'.

And after that? This depends largely on you. The café will be open throughout the afternoon and early evening offering an excellent menu of snacks, drinks and full meals right on the beach. The entertainment will continue. Lets all make it an evening to remember.

And this is not the end of our special year of coming together to have fun while fund raising for charity.

Our editor Mary has another plan brewing away which she has not as yet fully confided to her ace reporter. Keep watching your Saltash and District Observer.

Meanwhile, see you on Seaton Beach!

# UNION INN



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Best wishes to the Saltfest  
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## CORNWALL QUICK TO FILL HOLE

A resident in the select Hillside Road who reported a pot-hole to Cornwall Highways in the morning went out for the day and was delighted to find, when he returned mid-afternoon, that it had been filled.

A neighbour commented "We were home all day and

neither saw nor heard the work being carried out. It seems to be a good job done. With so many complaints about local authorities taking weeks or months to carry out these jobs it seems we must congratulate Cornwall Council on their amazingly immediate service".

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## Hobbies in Bloom

at St Stephens Church by Saltash

After months of planning and preparation the 'Hobbies in Bloom' festival took place on the weekend June 4th -7th. Graced with wonderful weather there was plenty to see and take part in. A large number of individuals donated items for display of crafts, art, sport and other leisure activities these were enhanced by beautiful flower arrangements, all displayed in the church. Outside in the churchyard the sun shone under the blue skies, while refreshments were being served in the marquees. For the children there were various activities including a 'Garden in a Bucket' competition. On the Sunday a Holy Communion service took place in the



'Fresh Expression' format and a Saltash Churches together 'Songs of Praise' service took place in the evening. The whole event raised in the order of £4,000, this money together with grants, donations and gifts will go towards the funding of the construction cost of £200,000 for the St Stephens Community Hall which is a badly needed facility to the community in the St Stephens area.

### LIGHT UP PILLMERE

At long last lighting is being installed on the many footpaths and cycle paths that wind around and through the Pillmere estate.

These have so far been dark and dangerous to use at night.

Although the work is not yet complete progress is being made, Cllr. Colin Riches informed the Town Council's Civic Amenities Committee, and he would continue to monitor progress.

Now visit...  
[www.saltash-observer.co.uk](http://www.saltash-observer.co.uk)

## VanEssa Menswear open in Saltash



The well-dressed man about Saltash now has a local boutique offering a wide range of formal and leisure wear for all occasions.

Vanessa Donoghue, who has adopted her name for her shop to include the ancient name

of Saltash (Essa) is a Tavistock girl who has lived in Saltash for six years and come to love the town.

Keen to establish her own business and with the help and support of her mother Valerie who has spent 35 years in the men's outfitting business, Vanessa is thrilled now that VanEssa has been formally opened by the Mayor of Saltash.

As well as a fine selection of trousers, jackets and shirts for fashion and for comfort she has a surprisingly wide stock of accessories from pyjamas and bathrobes to cuff links, tie pins and hairbrushes. Her limited edition silk ties are proving especially popular.

Vanessa is already well

known in Saltash for helping host children on health-giving vacations from the nuclear disaster area of Chernobyl, she being secretary of the Plymouth link organisation. "I would like to thank Saltash for the warm welcome it has given to my new business", she told the 'Observer'. "I have been overwhelmed especially by the support and encouragement from my fellow-traders. I firmly believe there is a good future for friendly small town main streets and businesses offering good choice and real customer service".

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## WOMEN MADE WELCOME TO LOCAL BRANCH OF WORLDWIDE INSTITUTE

Whether it be the traditional image of 'Jam and Jerusalem' or the uninhibited delights of 'Calendar Girls' most of us will have a mental image of one of our longest established national, and international, organisations.

It was in order to present a picture of the W.I. as it is today, retaining its traditions while deeply involved in the present and looking to the future, that our two local Saltash branches joined together to welcome women of all ages to a coffee morning in Forder Community Hall and demonstrate how much today's W.I. has to offer. Secretary of St. Stephens W.I. Christine Woolcock and President of Trematon W.I. Jean Buckingham were among existing members keen to welcome visitors and tell them more of the aims and activities of womens' institutes locally and worldwide.

While each individual institute offers its own programme of talks, social events, competitions and outings, membership of the W.I. opens up a world of opportunities through the county and national organisations.

Wednesday afternoons, the third of each month from 1.30 p.m., are the dates for the monthly meetings of St. Stephens W.I. held at Burraton Community Centre. A brief business meeting is followed by talks on a variety of subjects. These have recently included experiences in the police force and travels overseas or as local as the Scilly Isles, and often involve opening up new horizons by teaching various crafts. There are various social functions organised, a small drama group, and visits out are arranged usually in conjunction with other local W.I. groups.

The Trematon W.I. meets in the evenings, on the third Tuesday of each month at 7.30 p.m. in Trematon Hall. Again a programme of interesting talks follow the brief business meeting and topics this season include 'Palestinian Friendships', a thought-provoking talk on the current Middle East situation by Dr. Elizabeth Burroughs, 'Safe Driving' and 'A Trip to Ghana'. Again competitions, quizzes, and days out are organised and the group also organises the teas for open days at Ince Castle - a useful fund-earner.

Transport can be arranged to county meetings at Truro where guest speakers have included Kate Adie and Ann Widdecombe.

The W.I. has always remained a keen voice for women and for the countryside (some may remember the

"welcome" a W.I. group gave Tony Blair) and each local W.I. is welcome to become involved in putting forward resolutions to county or national meetings. Some travel to London or Cardiff for these meetings, all are encouraged to feel very much a part not only of the friendly grass roots social organisation but of a vibrant and when felt necessary, outspoken, national voice.

All members too are welcome to participate in the variety of sports and activities on offer which include not only golf, bowls and croquet but surfing, horseriding and abseiling. Members are also invited to the W.I.'s own Denman College in the Thames Valley where bursaries can be made available to attend a variety of courses in such crafts as cookery, music, calligraphy and various arts.

As part of a worldwide organisation local groups also involve themselves in A.C.W.W., Association of Country Women of the World, which raises funds for much needed overseas aid projects such as the provision of fresh water for families.

Anyone interested is invited to attend a 'taster' session of St. Stephens W.I. at Burraton Community Centre on the third Wednesday of the month at 1.30 p.m. (or contact 01752 848255) or of Trematon W.I. at Trematon Hall on the third Tuesday of the month at 7.30 p.m. (or contact 01752 845654).

## SUMMER HOLIDAYS ARE ABOUT TO BEGIN.....

*make sure you have your copy of.....A Local book of walks and strolls for your leisure time*

### Summer Walks....

And our gorgeous countryside is inviting you to see it at its best.

All around are a network of footpaths, bridleways and lanes to explore.

To enable our readers to experience the very best of our countryside, The Saltash and District Observer's own publication "A Quality of Life" is still available and crammed full of local walks, strolls and other leisure ideas. Visitors can particularly benefit, discovering so many of our local delights within its pages.

During this our 18th Anniversary year we are raising money for local charities (see elsewhere in this Observer) for a limited period we are going to donate a £1.00 from every copy sold to our charity fund, of which we will soon be revealing full details. Watch your Observer for more info on our charity year.

**I will deliver your copy locally free of charge.**

### A Quality of Life £4.99

To obtain a copy of this wonderful local book, which no home should be without, you can contact Mary Crawford on.....

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**W: www.saltash-observer.co.uk**

**Order your copy now!**

**And help our charity at the same time**

## SHERYLL MURRAY MP DEFENDS LOCAL JOBS IN MAIDEN SPEECH

Sheryll Murray, MP for South East Cornwall, chose the debate on the Strategic Defence and Security Review, on which so many South East Cornwall jobs depend, to make her maiden speech on Monday.

In her speech as is customary in maiden speeches Sheryll paid tribute to her predecessors including recently retired MP Colin Breed. She introduced her constituency to members of the house making a point of welcoming them to holiday there.

Her substantive contribution to the debate was to explain the importance of HMS Raleigh and Devonport dockyards to the local economy and implored the government to use the wealth of expertise available in the area.

The Full speech can be read here: <http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm100621/debtext/100621-0017.htm#10062128000123>

## Responsible Persons Required

If you are a responsible person and you enjoy walking for health or for pleasure or need a little push to go for that all important walk, why not deliver a few papers on route.

**I need active persons in the St Stephens, Maybrook/Castlemead & Culver Rd areas. If you are interested please call Mary Crawford on 07971 484872 or 01579 345699**

## CORNWALL COUNCIL LEISURE CENTRES INVITE EVERYONE TO JOIN IN A 2012 OLYMPIC CHALLENGE

Cornwall Council leisure centres are inviting everyone to be active and rise to a 2012 Olympic Challenge. The challenge is to take part in 2012 seconds (33.53 minutes) of physical exercise during the weekend of 23 to 25 July 2010.

Organised as part of the London 2012 Open Weekend, an annual UK-wide celebration counting down to the Olympic and Paralympic Games, participants will be able to register their activity so long as it lasts at least 2,012 seconds, or 34 minutes.

All registered participants will be entered into a draw to win a mountain bike receive a special certificate, and receive a voucher for 2 swims for the price of 1

Anyone can join in by taking part in an age appropriate activity whether at a leisure centre or not. So, if you are interested in a tried and tested activity be it swimming, cycling, running or tennis, or want to try something completely new, you can complete your challenge and take advantage of the huge number of sporting and physical activities on offer.

After completing your challenge, let the participating leisure centre know about the activity you have taken part in by completing the Cornwall 2012 registration form; hand in to the reception at your local Cornwall Council leisure centre to claim your 'buy one, get one free' swim voucher. Your registration form will also be put into a prize draw to win a mountain bike.

Cornwall Council cabinet member for leisure Joan Symons said: "This is a chance for everyone to be part of a celebration counting down to the Games in 2012. Get involved by taking part in a tried and tested activity or be daring and try something new."

The personal challenge activities must take place over the weekend of 23 to 25 July.

Activities taking place at a Leisure Centre will be charged at the normal price. Participants do not need to pre-register. Just go to the Leisure Centre reception and ask for a registration form

For details of your nearest leisure centre visit [www.cornwall.gov.uk/](http://www.cornwall.gov.uk/) and search leisure centres

## WE ARE READ DOWN UNDER

Since your Saltash and District Observer joined the world wide web a year ago your locally owned community newspaper has been read avidly not only by those in and around Saltash but literally around the world.

We especially enjoy having feedback from our more distant readers who are interested to read of events in and around our friendly town and study the promotion that we always like to give in support of local businesses. We have been kept up to date with news from about as far away as it is possible to get from Saltash on this planet, the ski fields of Coronet Park in New Zealand's North Island. While we have been enjoying idyllic early summer days at regatta and in our Cornish countryside, our New Zealand readers have been updating us on the thousands of winter sports enthusiasts eager to be first out on the ski slopes.

Greetings to all our readers, in whichever continent they may be!

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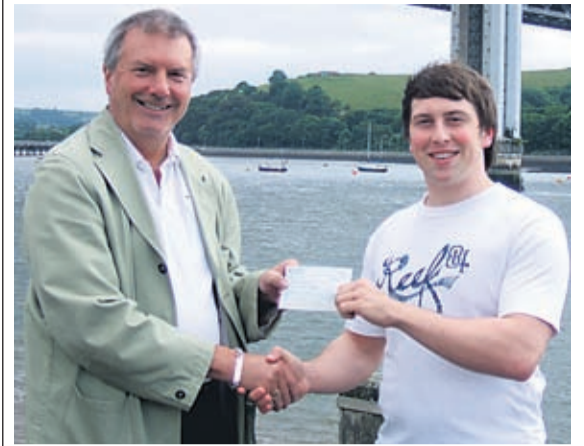
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## ANDREW SECURES A £250 AWARD



*Pictured Trustee of the Sue Hooper Charitable Foundation (Ken Martin) presenting the cheque to Andrew Deacon (Biog below)*

## FLOOD CONCERNS FOR INDUSTRIAL ESTATE

A major development including construction of seventeen industrial units at Wood Acre on the Parkway Industrial Site has not been properly thought through, Saltash Town Councillors agreed.

Groundwork South West who submitted the planning application had apparently not sought pre-application advice from either the Environment Agency or the County Forrester, believed Cllr. Sue Hooper. Had they done so they might have discovered that this was a high risk flood area with current plans for upgrading flood defences. The plans would also put some mature trees at risk. "The application is premature, it is an important one and we would welcome a better thought out application," concluded Cllr. Hooper.

Other Councillors agreed and recommended refusal of planning permission for the development with none in favour and one abstention.

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## OUR EDITOR TAKES THE HELM IN REGATTA RACE

The highlight of the Saltash Regatta Sunday, the celebrated 'Race to England' saw our editor Mary at the helm of the winning boat in her heat and subsequently accompany its crew to accept an award.

When the Observer team of Mary and Martin came as always to support the regatta, Mary was intending leaving early to celebrate her birthday with her family. Instead birthday girl Mary, ("Eighty-five today" proclaimed Malcolm



Down on the loudspeaker – we'll get you for that Malcolm) was invited by Brian Carter to step in and don the cox's T-shirt for the "Babcock Bulldogs". Never one to refuse a challenge Mary grabbed at it.

The first heat saw the "Bulldogs" with Mary at the helm pull well away from their rivals on the passage to England and back. The second heat saw them come second best after some dirty work at the rowlocks saw Mary struck with an oar by rival "Romans Rowers". The "French Onion Sellers" won that heat with "Babcock Bulldogs" an honourable second.

Mary was still, however surprised and delighted to join her team-mates in collecting a cup, awarded by Deputy Mayor and Mayoress Colin and Marilyn Oakes for the efforts of the team representing regatta sponsors Babcock Marine. Then at last, after travelling around the crowds and greeting many old friends Mary could join her family for a birthday beach barbecue – Do we hear that rowing the Atlantic is to be her next challenge?



### A BRIDGE TOO FEW

Following overwhelming demand for a proposed pedestrian footbridge at Carkeel plans for the projected bridge have been scrapped.

The Highways Agency arranged for Saltash homes to be circulated with leaflets inviting comments on the proposed bridge over the A38 close to the Carkeel roundabout. Residents were invited to choose between two suggested designs. There was also an exhibition mounted at Ashtorre which attracted widespread attention.

Of the 7111 leaflets distributed last Autumn 1434 were returned, a 20% response rate. They showed overwhelming support for the footbridge with 94% wishing for it. The most significant additional comment was that provision of a safe crossing

for pedestrians and cyclists was overdue and should be constructed as soon as possible. The majority opted for the tied (bowstring) arch style in preference to the truss bridge design.

Now Town Councillor Peter Clements has enquired on progress and been advised that neither bridge is to be built in the foreseeable future. The £1.4 million required is unavailable under current restrictions on spending.

Cllr. Clements suggests that those who keenly anticipated the proposed bridge and see a need for a safe crossing of the busy dual carriageway might bring their concern to the attention of Sheryll Murray M.P. at the House of Commons, London.SW1A 0AA.

### JUNIOR CRIER GIVES SHIELD TO SCHOOL

At afternoon assembly in Burraton School Saltash's Junior Town Crier, 8 year old Clare Jones entered in costume, rang her bell, and presented headmaster Martin Bell MA with the shield that she had won on May Fair Saturday.

Clare had been one of a team of one boy and one girl invited from each local junior school to participate in the junior crying contest, a 'first' for Saltash.

The shield will remain in the school's overflowing trophy cabinet until it is contested for again next year. It may well in due course be returning to Burraton School. Clare has a 6 year old brother there in year one, whom, she says "Is louder than me."



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### More Photos.... Visit our website

at: [www.saltash-observer.co.uk](http://www.saltash-observer.co.uk) to see more photos of the Regatta and events from around the Town this month.

Click on This Month's Issue you will find the photos on page 9

If you wish to purchase any of the photos please contact Mary Crawford on 01579 345699 or 07971 484872

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