



# SALTASH AND DISTRICT OBSERVER

Your only truly "local" newspaper ...

July 2011 - Issue 228

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

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## SALTASH & K3 CLIMB ABOVE THE REST

Thanks to the votes from the Community of Saltash, the surrounding towns and other supporters coupled with the determination and drive of all the K3 Team and users we have won the Peoples Jubilee Millions Big Vote.

This is a fantastic day for the Community of Saltash and local towns who can now reach and realise through climbing all year. Climbing can help to instil confidence, determination, excitement and adventure through a safe but exciting activity.

From the moment the community wall project reached the final stage in the Peoples Jubilee Millions Big Lottery Voting process the Team and in particular the K3 Young People were resolute in their determination to ensure we had an excellent chance of

securing the most votes.

With only four weeks of campaigning and strict financial guidelines on advertising the campaign had to be dynamic. Virtually every household in Saltash was delivered a flyer outlining the voting process but of course without the vital phone number, that, would only be released at 9:00 am on the day of the voting by the Big Lottery and in that mornings edition of the Daily Mirror.

The seven primary schools in and around Saltash were delivered a bookmark for every pupil to put into their reading bags and to encourage the community to be involved from the outset.

Posters were put up around the towns shops including a giant six foot by six foot poster in Saltash Town. Local groups who wanted the wall in the first place were contacted to attend the filming session for the two and a half minute slot to be shown on the Westcountry News on 29th June.

A copy of the paper was secured at 05:50 am from McColls in Fore Street and taken to local printers Mr Sticker who produced 5000 'flyers' containing the all important number. There on in, it was down to the K3 Community Team of volunteers to get the message to the all important supporters and voters.

Workers, The Management Committee, Young People, Council Employees and our local supporters either emailed, texted, or posted messages on facebook to their friends and family to get as many voters as possible. The local supermarkets, car parks health centres, leisure and sports centre, Pubs, employers car parks and schools as well as houses were then targeted



with leaflet drops from 0715 right up to 10 pm. A short but intense campaign and the wonderful Cornish People and other equally important

voters have ensured this project will now rise from the ground.

Please watch this space for exact details

Thank you to a fantastic Saltash Community for your votes and support

'One and All'



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## FERRY TALES SOUGHT FOR ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

Nine centuries of Saltash history came to an end fifty years ago in October and now memories are being sought of those who worked on or simply crossed the Tamar upon the Saltash ferry.

All of those who have any memories whatsoever of the ferry that faithfully clanked across the river from Saltash to St Budeaux rain or shine every day of the year are asked to help ensure that such memories are not lost forever. This could be the last opportunity to record such memories.

Whether you or any family member used the



ferry daily to travel to school or work, as a special event/ to shop in Plymouth, to visit family or friends, go to the cinema, or perhaps for a special occasion, your personal recollections are welcomed.

An oral history archive is being collated by Stephanie Norgaard who has recently graduated with a BA specialising in creating sound collages. Steph will be happy to visit and record individual memories in the home or wherever convenient by appointment.

She told The Observer: "History books don't tell us everything about the past. All too often the stories of ordinary people and their everyday lives are lost. All memories are a mixture of facts and opinions and both are important when future generations piece together the local history of their area. I hope that the archive will contain reminiscences, personal experiences and

eye-witness accounts of the final decades in the life of the ferry. I hope to capture the atmosphere of the traffic on the river and the bustling life of Waterside, a unique part of Saltash."

Those with memories, however minimal, of this era in Saltash history are urged to contact Steph through Lynn Marsh from Ashtorre Rock, Waterside. Lynn and Steph may be contacted by mail - 44 Culver Road, Saltash PL12 4DT, telephone - 01752 844255, or e-mail -

lynnsmarsh@aol.com. The final recordings will be placed on CD lodged in the Saltash Heritage Centre and in due course on a website to maintain a permanent link with the ferry.

The project, supported by Saltash Town Council, forms a part of the major celebrations planned for the fiftieth anniversary of the ferry closing and the Tamar Bridge opening on 23 October.

Watch your Observer for further details!

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**CORNWALL COUNCIL**  
 & our PL12 Community  
 For: Observer readers  
 From: Councillor Bob Austin  
 Essa Ward, Saltash



**“Can Do” Award**

Cornwall Council has been praised as a “Can Do” Council which is acting to protect frontline services and local taxpayers by Local Government Secretary Eric Pickles, (three councils have been nominated Adur, Bury and Cornwall), he says “they are protecting the services their community’s value with creative thinking”.

As a taxpayer living in Saltash you may very well ask what does that mean to me? Library hours being reduced by 9.5 hours per week, Adult Care being cut by 40% over four years, winter services (grit bins) being reduced by devolving their use to the Town Council, Grass cutting reduced, car parking charges increased, to name just a few things that we as residents are suffering. But we must look at the grander scheme of things where Cornwall Council is being asked by the Government to reduce its spending by £170 million over the next four years and no matter how much savings we make with the reduction of staff – front line services are going to be affected but may be not as bad as other councils, I will let you be the judge.

The Council’s proactive approach to meeting the financial challenges it faces as a result of reductions in Government funding and the greater focus on efficiency and stronger financial management has also helped the authority to save an additional £7.190 million over the past twelve months. This means that Cornwall is in a much stronger position than most other councils to deal with the impact of further reductions in Government funding without the need to cut more services and can also now look at the possibility of investing more capital in key projects to deliver growth and jobs.

**Fix My Street**

One of the things a Saltash resident can do to help the council is if you find there is a problem in your surrounding area where you live, whether it be pot holes, hedges need cutting, street lights not functioning - if you have 5 minutes which is all that it takes is go on line to [www.fixmystreet.com](http://www.fixmystreet.com) this information is then fed back to the department concerned.

**Localism – What does it mean?**

- \* new freedoms and flexibilities for local government
- \* new rights and powers for communities and individuals
- \* reform to make the planning system more democratic and more effective
- \* reform to ensure that decisions about housing are taken locally

The Government is committed to passing new powers and freedoms to town halls. We think that power should be exercised at the lowest practical level - close to the people who are affected by decisions, rather than distant from them. Local authorities can

do their job best when they have genuine freedom to respond to what local people want, not what they are told to do by central government. In challenging financial times, this freedom is more important than ever, enabling local authorities to innovate and deliver better value for taxpayers’ money.

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/localgovernment/pdf/1923416.pdf>

**Superfast Broadband**

One of the projects that were being promised by Carolyn Rule (the then portfolio holder for Economy) was that the superfast broadband to be rolled out first in the eastern region of the county this has now been rescinded the reason is as follows which has come from Nigel Ashcroft, Director of Superfast Cornwall- “Under EU state aid guidelines, BT cannot receive public funding for areas that already have next generation broadband services available as this would distort competition. Saltash is the only area of Cornwall where Virgin Media has cable footprint and so has their 50Mbps service is available. Hence Saltash has always been outside the scope of the Cornwall project. However, Openreach recently announced that it would enable Saltash for SFBB as part of their business as usual national programme and do so without using any public funds”.

The way I now understand the situation is that Saltash will be getting the Superfast BB with BT at the autumn of 2012 instead of the spring of 2012.

**Tamar Bridge 50th Anniversary Celebrations**

The Tamar Bridge was open to traffic on the 24th October 1961 (some of you will remember it well!) please put a note in your diaries. Details will be coming out soon on how the celebrations will take place and the programme of events on or around 24th October 2011, watch this space!

**Community Grants**

These are funds that are available to community groups (via the four County Councillors) who are perhaps struggling to raise funds to improve their quality of service. Just as I write this report I have visited the S.H.A.D.O centre in Plougastel Drive where Sue Hooper and the committee have completed a well needed refurbishment on their building which is now looking good. Their main sponsors were Virador with smaller amounts coming from the Town Council, Cornwall Council and Saltash Rotary Club. Our thanks to Sue for all the hard work she has done to make this project happen.

If you are involved in a community organisation that is requiring some funding please contact the appropriate Cornwall Councillor in your district (ward).

If you have been considering joining SHADO then you can contact Sue Hooper (President) on 01752 845418.

**OUR THANKS IN ADVANCE**

You may recall that last year Tony and Ysella, our granddaughter took part in Sports Relief. Tony pushed Izzy in her pushchair and thanks to the support of people such as yourselves, they managed to raise £310.

All the family had such a wonderful day that it was intended that they repeat it this year, this time with Izzy pushing her doll’s pram. However, despite Izzy, (now aged 21 months) having received a beautiful pink doll’s pram (courtesy great grandma Joan and Father Christmas), we discovered that Sports Relief only takes place every 2 years.

So .... we decided it was time for the girls to take up the challenge and Izzy (complete with Tigger in the pram!), Jayne - Mummy, Karen - Auntie, and me - Granny, will take part in the 5 km Race For Life. We will be taking part at Richard Lander School in Truro on Sunday, 24 July at 11.00 am and we would appreciate any sponsorship you felt able to give.

<http://www.raceforlifespokane.org/ysellamarsh>

Our thanks in advance and watch out for next year - Grandad and Izzy will be back!!

Love from Izzy, Jayne, Karen and Lynn xxx

**Residents and school children cook together**



St Annes Residential home and Brunel Primary school children got together this week to make some cakes.

Activities Co-ordinator Louise Childs organised with the school for several of their children to visit the home and help residents with the weekly baking. The children were amazed that people do actually live to be in their 90’s and even 100. The children were very good at holding a conversation with the residents (whilst the cakes were in the oven) and didn’t feel that they couldn’t talk to them because of the age gap.

Residents also enjoyed talking about how cake baking was all done by hand in “the olden days” which was a very interesting experience for the children. It all ended with a cuppa and some of the home made cakes which both the children and residents enjoyed.

**New Residents at St Annes**

When Pete our handyman went to get something out of our green house today he could hear some cheap cheeping going on, when he lifted a basket there they were in their little nest waiting for their mum to come back with some food.

We had thought there was a Robin using the green house because we could see him going in and out all the time, but to see the chicks there was a great surprise to us all. They will be left in peace until they are old enough to fly the coup, we all look forward to watching them learn to fly

**Coach parking places required**

The lack of parking places for coaches in Saltash has been discussed by the Town’s Industry Commerce Transport and Tourism Committee.

It was agreed that a demand exists and the Mayor together with Cllr Bruce Reed agreed to check out on current availability and seek to assess demand.

They also agreed to chase up a response from Cornwall Council concerning Saltash’s objection to the recent increase in car parking charges.

The banner which previously promoted cheap parking in Saltash should be replaced by one advertising the free car parking in Saltash after 4 pm, it was agreed, and the banner might be reproduced as a poster and made available for traders to display.

**ESSA FILES...**

Last year the Town Council agreed to set up a Mayor’s Panel of Youth, to give the young people of the town a clearer voice in what goes on in Saltash: since then it has met five times and is going strong, now of course under the auspices of Mayor Colin. The members are selected from school councils of schools in the area – saltash.net, Bishop Cornish, St Stephen’s and Burraton have all sent reps, and have recently been joined by Sir Robert Geoffrey’s and DHS (Boys) – to represent young people living in Saltash but educated elsewhere. The panel has also just agreed to appoint its first gap year rep – Conor, recently retired as one of saltash.net’s Head Students.

Each meeting the panel looks at a theme – so far they’ve considered Town Centre Improvement, Anti-Social Behaviour, the Environment, Transport, and Entertainment, and lots of excellent ideas have come up. These range from a

request for more bike racks to encourage cycling, to a Saturday Night Youth Project which will hopefully be launched in September.

‘The Buzz’ (working title) will be run by young people aged 16-18 for young people aged 13-15: to give them something positive to enjoy on Saturday nights when many of our youth working are hopefully enjoying their very well-deserved weekends!

It is really fantastic to hear the excellent contributions from the panel members, aged 8-18 and no doubt containing several future councillors!

They are always very positive and keen to get involved which makes us feel confident for the future of the town. From September the panel will be asking schools to (re)appoint new reps, so see your school council if you are interested and if your school is one that isn’t currently involved, let them know why they should be!

Cllr.Adam Killeya

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**SHERYLL MURRAY MP WRITES...**



This month began with a visit to Saltash Chamber of Commerce and I was delighted to catch up with them for the first time since my election in May 2010. A number of local issues were discussed and they gave me some interesting issues to take up on their behalf.

Back in Westminster after the Whitsun Recess, I have continued to raise the matter of the consultation on the restructuring of the Marine Coastguard Coordination Centres. I am really concerned about the impact any closures will have on safety at sea and will take any opportunity to ensure the issue is raised with the Minister.

I was really pleased to attend a reception for a Charity that I hold very dear to my heart, the Royal National Mission to Deep Sea Fishermen. The Mission provides support for retired fishermen and bereaved families as well as fishermen who have fallen on hard times. It is essential that they have adequate fund to

continue their wonderful work.

I was really pleased to visit the Armed Forces Family Day at the China Fleet Club and once again meet up with Saltash Mayor Colin Oakes and his wife Marilyn. I also had the opportunity to meet with Commodore Dearden, CO of HM Naval Base, Devonport and his wife Mandy. It was a delight to see messages from local men and women who are serving in Helmand.

I had another busy Surgery in Saltash Guildhall this month – please do call my office if you would like to make an appointment. My Office in Liskeard is open between 10am and 4pm, Monday to Friday. I would like to inform everyone that my staff are there to help all of my Constituents who require assistance. Please call us on 01579 344428, visit us at Windsor Place, Liskeard or email us at [sheryll@murray.com](mailto:sheryll@murray.com) if you need any help.

T: 01752 844879

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**Images Offer A Taste of Turkish Delight...**

The ladies of Saltash are increasingly coming to savour what many of them consider a flavour of Turkish Delight while having their hair tended with particular professionalism.

Yener has been warmly welcomed to ‘Images’ Fore Street Salon by owner Wendy, her staff, and the clientèle who appreciate his skills and his experience of ever changing hair fashions.

Having learned his skills in his home country of Turkey, Yener came to Saltash to live here with his English wife and son, now aged two, with a second child on the way. “I am really pleased to be made so welcome in Saltash and accepted into the Images team,” he told the Observer. “in a highly professional environment such as this it is vital that everyone works together as a team.”

He is anxious to ensure that his clients benefit from his keeping up with the latest in hair style fashion. To this end Yener undergoes continual training to update himself and recently won in his category at a hair show at college in Plymouth. He has learned from visits from a renowned hairdressers and in October intends to attend the London International Hair Show. Meanwhile he attends at Images six days a week attending to ladies preferably by appointment as well as mens’ hairdressing when available.

\*Images are also pleased to announce that following the favourable reception with which their clientèle greeted the Paul Mitchell hair care products they also now stock, straight from America, the range of Paul Mitchell’s colourings.

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## SALTASH U3A

Once again the Upper Guildhall was packed for our monthly meeting and extra chairs were required to seat everybody. Notices were pointed out by our Chairman and Secretary, Mike and Shirley Scott, and attention drawn to various activities. Callington U3A have a Study Day in October to which we are invited and Plymouth U3A have also invited our members to join them on a Bournemouth based walking holiday in April next year.

The National Conference in Nottingham—September 16th.—19th still has places available.

The coach trip to the Minac Theatre on June 29th, organised by Patricia Cooper, will leave the Leisure Centre car park at 9-30 am to allow for a one hour break in Truro, and arrive at the theatre at 1.15pm. All weather clothing is advised, and seats with backs can be hired on site.

Sue Martin is now collecting contributions for the Autumn News Letter.

Our speaker this month was Paul Wilson of Wren Music, who entertained and informed us in a very enjoyable way. His passion is folk music, and he played and sang several songs to us, although the words were not quite the same as the ones we were taught at school! Wren Music has existed for 28 years and is internationally recognised

for encouraging singing in schools and communities, hence the title of his presentation "A World Where Every Voice is Heard"

Next month's speaker will be Martin Overy on the subject of "Birds and Gardens"

Because of our expanding membership the Committee have been searching for a larger venue for our meetings, and at last an agreement has been reached with Saltash Wesley Church for us to meet there. The July meeting will be the last one at Saltash Guildhall, and as we don't meet in August our first meeting at Wesley will be the AGM on September 8th.

### Mosaics Mended

The mosaics which line the over-bridge across the by-pass between Fore Street and North Road are currently under repair.

They were assembled by pupils of our local junior schools and for health and safety reasons had to be created using light use glue. To ensure their permanence as a feature of the Town they are being repaired using a stronger glue. The former Gas Showroom at the foot of Fore Street, currently being used as the Town's "shop window" is proving an excellent workshop and "drying out" room for this purpose.

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

As this is my first Mayor's column I would like to begin by thanking our immediate past Mayor Councillor Adam Killeya and the Mayoress Councillor Merryn Killeya for all their hard work and leaving the office in such good order.

One of the points I made in my speech at the Mayor Choosing ceremony on 10th May was that I intended to meet as many Saltash residents as possible during my year in office. I had already been told by other Councillors, that the year would be extremely busy and the time fly by and I now realise what they meant.

My first invitation was the Saturday after Mayor Choosing when Marilyn and I were invited to attend the 2nd. Saltash Scout Group, birthday party. As a keen member of the Scout Association I was delighted to choose Hannah Smith as my Mayor's scout for the year and I know she will do a splendid job. We were therefore thrilled to be invited to the Birthday celebrations and received a very warm welcome from the District Commissioner, Maureen Carvell and all the Leaders and helpers. It was wonderful to see so many

young people having fun in an educational environment and the event was extremely well organised.

We have also had the privilege of attending two concerts, the first being the Trelawny Male Choir and secondly, the Saltash Ladies Choir with the Essex Police Choir. Both evenings were well attended and the music was superb.

It is always good to see new business open in our town and we have opened three in the last couple of months.

Finally, on the business side, we were invited to open the new pharmacy in Regal Court which will be open from 7am to 11pm most days. This will be of great benefit to those who work office hours and also to our numerous care and residential homes for out of hours prescriptions.

Summer is the time for fetes and fairs and we have attended the St Stephens fete raising funds for a new community hall and the Friends of St Barnabas Hospital Summer Fair which is one of my charities this year. Both events were very enjoyable and the tea and cakes were delicious!

We have attended several Mayor Choosing ceremonies and Civic Services within South East Cornwall and Plymouth and had the pleasure of meeting other members of the "Chain Gang" (which the Mayors are collectively known as) and it has been interesting to experience different ceremonies and traditions.

We have attended two events that the Plymouth Mayor and Mayoress have also attended, the first one being a site visit to view the Royal Albert Bridge with a tour and presentation on the forthcoming renovation of the Bridge and secondly at the China Fleet Club where a fun day was held for the families of our service men and women serving abroad. This included a film of the personnel in Afghanistan and their personal messages of thanks to those concerned who have been involved. Both events were very interesting and worthwhile and the amount of people that we have met so far has been incredible.

And finally, as we look forward to the remainder of our Summer, I am pleased to say that the holders are now in place and we should see the first of the hanging baskets in Fore Street, very soon. Also on the agenda is the cleaning of the Fore Street pavements so watch this space!

New ranges in Saltash Sports include fitted girls' shirts for saltash.net.school. This is of course, in addition to the wide range of kit and equipment required for those of any age to enjoy any sport or leisure activity including Zumba wear for the latest fitness dance craze that is sweeping Saltash and the world beyond.

Colin Oakes  
Town Mayor



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### Prepare for the New School Year at Saltash Sports

With the Summer holidays upon us it is coming up to time to kit out the children for the coming year of school. With four children of their own going through our local schools Nick and Amanda of "Saltash Sports" are well able to advise on the essential uniform and the necessary sport and PE kit especially for saltash.net.academy, as well as St Stephens, Brunel and Landulph schools for which they are approved stockist. Their expertise will ensure that youngsters will be ready and equipped for a new school year with all such items as approved football boots, plimsolls and trainers.

A visit to Saltash Sports, with its own changing facilities, will guarantee good quality well fitting uniform and sportswear at reasonable prices, and with the current financial situation in mind arrangements can be made for instalment payments if preferred.

New ranges in Saltash Sports include fitted girls' shirts for saltash.net.school. This is of course, in addition to the wide range of kit and equipment required for those of any age to enjoy any sport or leisure activity including Zumba wear for the latest fitness dance craze that is sweeping Saltash and the world beyond.

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**NUMARK**



## Castle venue for Festival of Writers and Reader!

The location for Saltash Bookshelf's first Literary festival, a castle overlooking the twisting Tamar river, was 'non-pareil' – beyond compare, declared the Right Honourable Ann Widdecombe, one of a number of guest speakers who entertained a packed house of booklovers. A lady with local roots, her grandfather having been a baker in Saltash, Ms Widdecombe told the Saltash Observer that she had enjoyed thoroughly the event at Pentillie Castle, it had been "tremendous fun, the questions wide ranging and I hope they invite me again."

It had always been her ambition to be a known novelist, she had told her audience, having written her first book aged ten and a full length novel at 18. By the time she left university however, her other love of life, politics had taken over, and it was only later in life that she began to write in

Mary's finest local art works.

The boisterous era of Nelson was recalled when Julian Stockwin gave his talk, launching his latest seafaring epic. "There is a moment when the sea reaches out and touches you" he told his enthralled audience. "It did for me, and it did for my hero Thomas Kydd." Drawing on



Sisters Pip and Jill with Ann Widdecombe

earnest and completed "An Act of Treachery" described as "the book I always intended to write."

The researching and writing up of local history had been the subject of the first talk by well known Plymouth writer and artist Chris Robinson. Having been brought up on comics he was always keen to ensure his books were fully illustrated and he fascinated his audience by projecting some of the many paintings, prints and photographs he had discovered in his research, particularly for his latest book, a history of the three hundred year rise and fall of Devonport. He accompanied the pictures with a vivid description of Devonport and Plymouth in more rumbustious days.

During a prolonged lunch break guests could enjoy an excellent buffet meal in a marquee or on the terrace with its spectacular river views. There was time to walk off the lunch through the gardens down to the boathouse or even along the lime tree walk past the ice house to the Gothic mausoleum.

The lunch break also allowed the opportunity to mingle with special guests Virginia Spiers and Mary Martin. These Tamar Valley born sisters had recently combined their talents, Virginia being a 'Guardian' country columnist and Mary a renowned and much sought after artist, to produce a book 'Silver River.' This beautifully produced volume, evocative of the Tamar past and present includes many of

his own experience, sent away to HMS Indefatigable aged 14, his latest is the twelfth book in a sage designed to portray the adventurous life of a boy sailor of Nelson's navy thought his career up to Admiral of the blue. He made clear through his enthusiastic talk to his audience that he follows his own advice to them in "writing the book you yourself want to read."

A detective crime series set around her home town of St Ives had been suggested by her publisher to Debby Fowler, the afternoon's final guest speaker. The result is the highly successful and popular Felicity Paradise series of which six books were now available.

Felicity is not based on herself, Mrs Fowler replied to a question, being younger, more confident and feisty, though her background is similar to the author's own. St Ives she considered an ideal setting with its contrast of artists and artisans, fisherfolk and visitors. She was anxious however not to put off visitors by creating a 'Midsummer Murders' scenario of a murder rate exceeding Chicago in the gangster era.

A "St Ives boy" in the audience did confirm that in her books "all crimes are committed by incomers."

The day proved an undoubted success enjoyed by all and gratitude was expressed to Jill Male of "Saltash Bookshelf" for organising it as part of independent booksellers' week. The venue was ideal,

## VanEssa celebrates in style



Delighted to mark the completion of her first year of providing a wide range of quality mens' clothing for customers from Saltash and beyond, Vanessa of Van Essa Menswear decided to celebrate in style.

The all day birthday celebrations included a 'drop in' for a glass of wine and a cup cake. Vanessa was pleased to welcome many of the customers who over the past twelve months have come to appreciate the wide selection of fashion, formal and casual wear and accessories that she has built up over the year in accordance with customer demand.

Those who had not been in before were clearly impressed at the range catering for all ages and in every style, modern and traditional.

Vanessa would like to take the opportunity to thank all of those who have supported her during her first year of providing a new service to the Town. She looks forward to welcoming them all back, as well as those who have yet to examine her ever changing range of mens' clothing for every occasion.



Debby Fowler

and a truly memorable day was shared by writers and readers. As author Julian Stockwin concluded, "I enjoyed coming and events such as this make me feel positive for the future of books. Independent booksellers like Jill are solid gold."

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## "Mad" means "Make a difference" at saltash.net

saltash.net school students went 'mad' for a week as part of the school's Rewards and Praise Policy. 'M.A.D.' stood for 'make a difference' and Deputy Headteacher Dan Roberts had organised the week with the aim of showing how through daily actions we can all show our care and concern for others.

Through its set core of values, fairness, respect, responsibility, honesty and compassion and perseverance, the school encourages all members to demonstrate their awareness of these values in practical ways and the 'MAD' week allowed opportunities to do so.

In particular it gave recognition to any students or staff whom other members of the school community felt had done something particular for others.

The student ICT A team produced and showed a video demonstrating ways in which it is possible to make a difference to others, and this supported the school assemblies led by Mr Roberts in which he had explained how everyone could put

forward a student or staff member for a MAD award.

saltash.net takes its role as a 'Community School' seriously, seeking to work within its own community towards helping others, as well as within the wider Saltash community and beyond. Among other outreach activities the school has recently been pleased to present a cheque for £577.52 in aid of Marie Curie Cancer care to a parent of four School students who had recently run the London Marathon.

The school's annual Dance Extravaganza had been in support of the Oncology Department at Derriford Hospital and Year 11 students had organised a number of fund raising events in aid of CLIC Sergent especially to show solidarity and support for a fellow student.

All of this was in addition to fund raising for Japanese earthquake victims and for the Chernobyl Children's Lifeline – all evidence of how the school has taken on board what 'making a difference' can mean in practice.

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check [www.SaltashFerryLink.com](http://www.SaltashFerryLink.com) for programme

## Saltash 'Secret Agents' Summer Holiday Club

Have you started looking for a holiday club this summer? Or just looking for ways to entertain the kids during the summer time to give you a break? Saltash Wesley Church on Callington Road has re-started their summer holiday club by popular demand.

For one week in the summer you can entertain your kids (5 - 11 year olds) for just £10 or £2.50 per day from Monday 15th August to Friday 19th August 2011 10.00am to 12.00noon. The summer holiday club is planning to have a different theme each year, this year it is secret agents. The club will be run by Chris Clark who has organized many holiday clubs elsewhere and a large team of supporters. Chris said that they aim to just cover costs; it is not run for profit but as a fun light hearted way to help entertain children this summer.

To accompany the work done by the kids during the week there will be a Fun Day at Longstone park for all ages and involving the children that were at the summer holiday club. There will be lots of entertainment including a Stock Game where people can soak the new Saltash Mayor, Collin Oakes. On the morning of Sunday 21st August there will be an outdoor service at Longstone park. This is a light service for all ages and everyone is welcome.

## Conundrum Corner...

Taking the initial letter to the one word answer to the following nine questions can you then re-arrange them to make a nine-letter word?

- 1 Who was Mrs. Bucket's brother-in-law in the TV series Keeping Up Appearances?
- 2 Which ingredient, vital to Choux Pastry, is missing from Puff Pastry?
- 3 What was the name of Jason's Ship?
- 4 Which river has Vienna, Budapest and Belgrade along its course?
- 5 Which famous World War II fighter plane was designed by Reginald Mitchell?
- 6 Which is the biggest resort in Wales?
- 7 What was the name of the lioness in Joy Adamson's book Born Free?
- 8 Whose last 12 symphonies are known collectively as the London Symphonies?
- 9 What term is used for organisms that occur as crusty patches or growths on tree trunks, bare ground or rocks?

Answers on page 7

To book the summer holiday club please call Chris Clark on 07790 537911

## Saltash seeks to see the Olympic Flame

The Olympic Flame, due to leave Lands End at 5.30 am on May 19th next year, on the first stage of its journey through Britain, is due to reach Plymouth by eight that evening.

Saltash Councillors are anxious to ensure that the flame should be borne through the town as it leaves Cornwall and have commenced negotiations by proposing alternative routes through the town.

The flame itself will be carried by a runner but will be followed by several heavy trucks supplied by sponsors.

A Cornwall Community Task group is being set up and a Saltash Councillor should be invited to join it if the route through the Town is chosen for a Tamar crossing. The Mayor, Councillor Colin Oakes, has however, been advised that all is to be kept confidential until a proposed route through the County is published.

## Town's Financial housekeeping approved

A vast improvement in the Town's financial management and governance has been noted by the internal auditor. He made the comment while approving the internal audit report for 2010/11 and comparing with matters since his last audit.

Overall financial risk is low, it was officially confirmed, and all tests were satisfactory subject to a few minor adjustments.

## Thank you

The Brunel and the Hearing Room would like to say thank you to you all for taking part in the 'GO YELLOW DAY'. Winners of the Hearing Room competitions were: Mrs A Taylor (Ang) Guessing the correct weight of the Bananas' 3.9lb Ms D Williams (Di) guessing the correct number of Yellow Sweets in the Jar 57. We will let you know the amount collected when the tins are emptied.

## New Business will be "Great Asset to the Community"



A late-night opening pharmacy is the latest business to join the thriving array of independently owned shops that make up our lively Town centre.

"It's always good to see another new business in Saltash, especially in today's economic climate and of course another shop filled," said Mayor Colin Oakes as he and his Mayoress Marilyn Oakes cut the ribbon to officially open Saltash Pharmacy. They were joined by Chairman of Saltash Chamber of Commerce William Cotton and a number of other local business people wishing success to the newly established business in Regal Court, between Fore Street and Belle Vue Car Park. Referring to the opening hours which will make the new pharmacy available to all, together with its collection and delivery service, the Mayor felt sure that Saltash Pharmacy will be "a great asset to the Community."

## Going Yellow added smiles to a Damp Day

A damp day in Saltash Fore Street was enlivened in colourful fashion when local businesses joined the regional campaign to Go Yellow.

"Be sunny to raise lots of money" was the slogan, the worthy cause of St Luke's Hospice was the recipient of funds raised, and though the day was far from sunny many smiles were raised in the participated business.

The 'Brunel Inn,' 'The Hearing Room' and the NHS Walk-In Hearing Centre all entered fully into the spirit of the day.

Yellow clad staff sold yellow cup cakes with tea and coffee and invited all to guess the number of sweets in the jar and the weight of the bananas.

Those who called in the Brunel were invited to guess the name of the (yellow) teddy as well as join the fun for a Yellow Charity Bingo evening on the Tuesday.

The event raised an excellent sum of money to be confirmed at a later date, for the Hospice that offers excellent and personal care to the terminally ill and to their loved ones.



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## Blitz 70 Years Anniversary Week

Between the 26th and 28th April saltash.net community school commemorated 70 years since the Blitz, commemorating in particular the damage to Saltash. Normal Key Stage 3 History lessons were suspended, various activities took place across the 3 days, and the department took whole-school assemblies for the week, to ensure all students were able to gain awareness of the anniversary.

In place of standard History lessons Key Stage 3 students were able to access a range of material and resources to research and produce their own reflective work. Classes and year groups were able to mix throughout the History Block, which was transformed into a Blitz-style zone with striking and imaginative displays and eye-catching war-time posters. Students were able to independently use resources from an extensive bank, including primary sources and accounts, and even an exciting range of artefacts kindly supplied by Truro Museum.

Truro Museum also visited the school for a day, leading an engaging workshop based on life during the Second World War, expanding students understanding of what life was like during the Blitz and actually allowing them the opportunity to handle some artefacts!

Rogue Theatre came into school for the three days and worked with a small group of students, developing both Historical understanding and Drama. They worked with the group to build a full-scale replica Anderson Shelter and then carried out drama productions based on their research.

A group of students had the opportunity to interview several local residents, to find out about their experiences of Saltash in the Blitz. The group were able to develop their interviews into a well-researched and engaging piece of journalism, reporting



on Saltash and the Blitz. A further group of students went to Plymouth and worked with a professional photographer to photograph and research the impact of the Blitz on Plymouth. They were able to use photographs of war-damaged Plymouth to pin-point their location and make creative use of the old images alongside their modern equivalent views. The group was also able to visit the Old Merchant's House Museum in Plymouth and thoroughly enjoyed the fascinating displays there.

The students and staff of the school were also able to experience the "Cube." This



## Bridge repaint and restoration is historic performance

The long promised renovation of the Royal Albert Bridge to ensure its future after one and a half centuries of constant usage is at last under way.



A brief ceremony on the St Budeaux side of the Tamar attended by the Mayor and Mayoress of Saltash Colin and Marilyn Oakes heralded in a two year project.

As part of the project all of the paint put on since the original coating in the 1850's is to be stripped off back to the bare metal. It will be replaced by a long lasting paint cover as now used on the Forth Railway Bridge in Scotland and which ensures that "painting the Forth Bridge" is no longer a synonym for a never ending task. Indeed the company involved on the Royal Albert Bridge, Taziker Industrial is also involved in works on the Forth Road Bridge.

It was suggested that the bridge should be repainted in its original colour of off-white, the original paint having been discovered during experiments on the paintwork. However, it was decided that this would quickly deteriorate and look shabby so the new paintwork will be similar to the colour at

present "battleship grey." Two small squares of the original paint cover will be preserved for historic reasons. As well as repainting there will be considerable restructuring. The cross girders will be repaired, much other steel work replaced, and some of the steelwork added during the twentieth century



and found to be unnecessary will be removed to bring the design more in keeping with Brunel's original.

Around ten million pounds and two million man hours will go into ensuring a bridge fit for the twenty-first century providing rail connections into Cornwall for decades to come.

Residents around Waterside and Lower Fore Street are assured that the encapsulation of the sector being worked upon will prevent debris falling into streets and residences below.

Workmen will be looking out for the gold rivet supposedly hidden somewhere in the structure by Brunel and covered in paint ever since. We are assured however that the "gold rivet" myth is a popular one used especially among seamen anxious to entice women into the depths of their ships. Still there is no harm in looking.

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## James is on a Mission



‘Saltash School ‘Old Boy’ Receives a Boost from Today’s Pupils on His Fundraising Crusade to Help Fight Blindness’

Former Saltash.net pupil, 19 year old James Smale, is on a mission to raise funds to help find a cure for Retinitis Pigmentosa because his Mother’s twin sister is losing her sight due to the little-known, yet potentially devastating condition.

52 year old Sheila Royle, who was a pupil at Saltash School herself in the 1970s, now lives in Poulton-le-Fylde, Lancashire. She is working hard to live with her increasing sight loss and along with husband David and family, continues to run her estate agency business - despite being registered as legally blind.

James says that his entire family has been inspired by Sheila’s courage:

“Her sight is diminishing because the light receiving cells on the retinas at the back of her eyes are dying off. There is no cure as yet but it is frustrating because research shows that a cure for the condition is getting much closer. More research is needed but that is expensive and unfortunately RP is not a high profile charity so they struggle terribly to raise funds.”

On July 16th this year James is taking part in a challenge event arranged by the British Retinitis Pigmentosa (RP) Society. His week long trek across the rough terrain of Iceland is one of many ‘RP Fighting Blindness’ challenge

events that aim to raise funds for research into RP.

On Monday (June 6, 2011) James, who aims to become a teacher, returned to his old school where he was presented with a £239.31 cheque by Headteacher Mrs Isobel Bryce who said:

“We are pleased to be able to support James’ fundraising efforts and we all wish him the very best of luck. James has promised to return to tell pupils all about his trek and the work of the RP Society.”

The school has also pledged to donate 50% of the proceeds from a forthcoming end of term talent show.” James said:

“I would like to thank Mrs Bryce, the staff and pupils most sincerely for their support. I am (nervously) looking forward to telling them all about the Iceland Trek at an assembly when I return.”

Anyone wishing to sponsor James can go to: [www.justgiving.com/james-smale](http://www.justgiving.com/james-smale)

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## Buffalos help Hospital Fund Raising at Fete

A family fete at St Barnabas Hospital attracted a high number of children in particular eager to sample the cup cake making and art competition. their parents meanwhile took advantage of the home made cakes, the plant stall and the tombola, and all enjoyed the games.

The newly enhanced Saltash Town Band played as all generations came together to enjoy a fun afternoon and help raise money for our community hospital.

Fund raising for the Friends of St Barnabas received a considerable boost during the afternoon as a result of a visit from members of the East Cornwall Grand Lodge of the Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffalos. Last year’s Provincial Grand Primo had chosen the community hospital as the main charity for his year of office. He and his fellow Buffalos were pleased to present a cheque for £1,850 to Sister Sue Lloyd by way of thanks for the treatment that several members had received at St Barnabas. The money was to go to two pressure relieving mattresses, one of which had already been delivered and from which in-patients would benefit. The Friends of St Barnabas, who had organised the Fete, raise funds to pay for additional equipment and comforts for both in-patients and day clinic visitors and are currently seeking to purchase an adaptable chair.

The Fete had been opened by the Mayor Cllr Colin Oakes whose Mayoress, Marilyn Oakes, is actively involved in the Friends Committee. “We are so fortunate to have this community hospital in our town, it is a priceless asset deserving of all our support.” The Mayor stated.

The Fete raised £700 for the Hospital’s League of Friends.

## HEAD CRITICISED PARENTS’ PARKING

Parents and guardians delivering and collecting children at Bishop Cornish School are doing so inconsiderately, the school’s Head Teacher is claiming.

A letter stating that parental parking is inconsiderate to the neighbours resident close to the school, written by the the Head Teacher, was read out by Cllr David Yates to the Town’s Industry Commerce Transportation and Tourism Committee and was duly noted.

## Year 11’s last day!



What a superb send off our Year 11s had. The day began with students and staff attending an assembly in a full array of fancy dress costumes, with special awards being presented for individual students. Students attended normal lessons for the first two periods of the day and then the fun began ... Breaktime in the main hall – saw an excellent dance session on the main stage led by Year 11 students. The hall was packed with students from across the other year groups. The atmosphere was electric and sent a powerful message out about our school community and how we can all achieve so much when we work together and support one another.

The next two hours were spent on the sports field. Unfortunately the students missed out on their sports day last year due to adverse weather, so this gave them the opportunity to enjoy an alternative sports day! There were some hilarious moments when one student, Ben Kitt Osborne, having come dressed as a PE Teacher’s double, proceeded to undertake the PE role with much enthusiasm.

Having worked up quite an appetite, the students enjoyed a lunchtime BBQ whilst listening to a Real Live Music Concert performed by students of saltash.net – the ambience was incredible!

The final assembly showcased a fantastic range of Year 11 musical student talent – special well dones to

## Answers to Conundrum:

1 Onslow 2 Eggs 3 Argo 4  
Danube 5 Spittle 6  
Llandudno 7 Eisa 8 Hyden  
9 Lichen Nine-letter word:  
Leasehold

Sam Crawley, Joe Davis, Lydia Rule, Danni Welsh and Paul Armer. Year 11 student Ryan King streamed many of the events live over the internet on his blog post and received over 17,000 hits!

All in all the day was a huge

success and was full of the most special memories. We wish all of our Year 11 students every success in their examinations this summer. They have been a wonderful year group and we are very proud of them all.

## Walkers learn their Fleabane from their Nipplewort

Larks ascended, swallows dived and sedge warblers warbled lustily as a group of would-be wild flower spotters were led around Churchtown Farm wildlife reserve by botanist Ian Bennallick.

As well as discovering a number of the reserves two hundred or so flower species in the late Spring sunshine walkers admired a number of butterflies including the exotic looking marbled white.

The variety of habitats on the reserve ensures a varied mixture of plant life. In the marshland Ian distinguished fools’ watercress from true watercress and discovered hedge mustard, swinecress, bog stitchwort and water pepper – with its strong peppery taste. Not to be tasted were the poisonous hemlock, water dropwort and woody nightshade.

The meadowlands produced nipplewort, fumitory and speedwell while hedge bedstraw hid in the hedges and stinking iris (the “roast beef plant”) flourished in the woodland.

Among the many evocatively named wild plants discovered were fleabane, bladder campion, birds’ foot trefoil, fiddle dock, cut leafed cranesbill and goatsbeard, otherwise known as Jack Go To Bed at Noon.

The walk was well attended and was one of the variously themed monthly guided walks organised by the Friends of Churchtown Farm.

With the management policy of the reserve including controlled grazing and absence of chemical fertilizers

or pesticides it is hoped that the natural seedbank of Churchtown Farm will continue to become an increasing source of wild flowers flourishing through all seasons.

## Performance Art Premier down on Waterside

A new concept in performance art is to be premiered at Waterside ‘Livewire’ club.

‘The Haunted Rite of Madness’ is a blend of music, dance and drama created by four students from Saltash and Plymouth studying drama at Plymouth’s City College. Daisy Morris, Roman Bloodworth, Emma Adams and Holly Oxinou have together formed the ‘up’t Kreek ttheatre’ and have previously performed in commedia dell’Arte.

Their first major performance, at Livewire on one night only on Saturday July 30th at 7.30 pm they describe as “a story like no other, the story of a small boy hidden away from the light of day, somewhere in the writers imagination. Let the music box play and the story unfold. Is he a figment of your imagination or are you a figment of his?”

The performance is jointly directed by the cast members and is based on an idea by artistic director Roman Bloodworth. It has evolved through rehearsals to a stage where they believe “the emotion of the words should tell the story, not the story itself.”

The company is already busy working on a follow up to the performance. They are also arranged to tour with another play ‘The Artus Express’ by Roman Bloodworth with Martin Lister, touring Stratford and Cornwall later this year.

‘The Haunted Rite of Madness’ is considered suited to ages from thirteen upwards.

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## Ann Widdecombe speaks of Politics, "Strictly" and her Saltash Roots

Which Saltash Baker's granddaughter is renowned as a cabinet minister in the Thatcher government but even better known as a dazzling contestant in television's top rating "Strictly come Dancing!"

No marks for guessing the Right Honourable Ann Widdecombe, though many have been unfamiliar with her Saltash roots. Saltash Observer reporter Martin Lister took the opportunity to talk with her when she attended the recent Literary Festival at Pentillie Castle organised by 'Saltash Bookshelf's' Jill Male.

"We have traced our family back to the Saltash of the 1750's," she told Martin. "My grandfather Charlie had a bakery in the Town and my father was born in Saltash where I still have family." Her mother was a "St Budeaux maid" who ran a sweet shop in Victoria Road living, it was discovered in the same road as reporter Martin's own mother.

Ann herself however was brought up "everywhere" being in a service family. She came back to the West Country to fight David Owen for the Devonport seat in 1983 before being elected at Maidstone and her

parliamentary career taking off.

Before that her first love was writing. Her first book 'Forest Trek' was written at the age of ten and her first novel set in Ancient Rome, at eighteen.

When her other love of Politics took over her life, late night sittings in the Commons left little time for writing. The Labour landslide of 1997 saw her move from Home Office to Back Bencher and the resulting time available led to her writing 'The Clematis Tree,' a Times bestseller.

She now has a number of best sellers to her name but in each case starts with only a general idea of where to end and in each book, she declares "One of the central characters has taken me by surprise. When readers tell me "I knew what was going to happen," I have to reply, "that's more than I did," she claims.

Her political heroes are Wilberforce and Churchill, each of whom fought for their beliefs in the face of public indifference and apathy. In the one instance the public had accepted slavery as inevitable, in the other appeasement to Hitler appeared equally inevitable as to alternative to war.

She also expressed an admiration for Margaret Thatcher and also her much



maligned successor John Major, who always had time to express a friendly interest in each of his MP's.

Her post political career, she told her Pentillie audience, came after she had turned down an offer to appear on "Strictly" each year from 2004 to 2009. then she saw John Sergeant perform and decided "you could do it even if you are an elephant."

Being now retired and "no longer owing a duty of time or dignity" she predicted to her friends who urged against it that she would be out of the show within two or three weeks. "I was definitely not expecting the public reaction that I received," she recalls. She added that partner Anton advised her, after two hours together, "the less time you spend with your feet on the floor the better," hence her dramatic display of flying and spinning.

## Bottle Bank Unemptied – Lorry is too big

While the paper, can and clothing recycling containers in the Co-op car park are emptied on a regular basis the bottle bank has not been emptied for many weeks.

The resultant accumulation of glass bottles around the bank was referred to Saltash Town Council during public question time. "The large collection of glass in a public car park could result in local youths having a smashing time" was the given concern.

The recycling agency has acquired a new truck which is unable to access the car park, Mayor Colin Oakes replied. Consideration is currently being given to overcoming the problem, meanwhile the bottles in the car park accumulate.

So what next? By way of something new she is due to play in pantomime, the villain's role in Dartford, Kent, this Christmas.

All part of a life for a Saltash baker's granddaughter.

## Rabbits safe from Shooting

Allotment holders on the newly released land at Churchtown Farm cannot save their cabbages and other vegetables from Peter Rabbit's local kinsfolk.

A request from an allotment holder to shoot rabbits on the allotment site has been refused by the Council's Civic Amenities Committee.

The allotments adjoin the Churchtown Farm Nature reserve where rabbits run rampant. Allotment holders however, must get by without their rabbit pie, or seek other means of protecting their produce.



## Hedging over highways

During the season when hedges and trees have been having a growth spurt a member of the public asked the Town's Civic Amenities Committee about Town Council policy regarding overhangs.

When trees and hedges grown in private property overhang public pavements, footpaths and roads the Town Council will, if requested, write to the property owner when appropriate asking that the plants be properly maintained.

While the Town Council cannot subsequently enforce this local councillors have a watching brief to inform Cornwall Council. Cornwall do have enforcement powers to take necessary action, requiring property owners to cut back vegetation, or to carry out work and charge the owners for it.

## TES SCHOOLS AWARDS

We had some fantastic news recently! For the third year running saltash.net community school has been shortlisted and is in the final of the TES Schools Awards (Times Educational Supplement) in the Outstanding ICT Learning Initiative. To be shortlisted once again is truly validation that we are really doing some fantastic innovative use of technologies to enhance the learning of our students. We have been shortlisted for a specific project called 'X Box marks the spot', a game produced to help primary school students with their transition to secondary school.





**saltash.net community school** is a thriving, highly successful 11 to 18 mixed, community comprehensive school. On April 1<sup>st</sup> 2011, the school achieved Academy status, another significant milestone in its history. Becoming an Academy means the school can continue to strengthen and develop all areas of the curriculum, including its specialism of Science, Maths and Computing.

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.

**For a Prospectus or for more information please contact:**

saltash.net community school  
Wearde Road  
Saltash  
Cornwall  
PL12 4AY

**Tel: 01752 843715**  
enquiries@saltash.cornwall.sch.uk  
www.saltash.net

Our Open Evenings for 2011 will start at 6.30 p.m. on  
Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup>  
& Thursday 29<sup>th</sup>  
September







## Customer Satisfaction National Award for Devon Funeral Directors

The Walter C. Parson Group of Funeral Directors are pleased to announce that they have been awarded The Funeral Planning Services Customer Care Award 2011.

Funeral Planning Services said that following the planning and purchase of a funeral in advance the Customer Satisfaction Survey revealed that people are very happy with the service they received from the Walter C. Parson Group. One customer's comment was, "Plain and simple, no frills - exactly what I wanted and very easy to understand".

It is in achieving such consistently high commendations from customers that has gained the Walter C. Parson Group this award and the hard work and dedication it takes to provide such high quality customer service deserves to be recognised.

Stephen Ware, Managing Director of Walter C. Parson said, "I am very proud to receive this award from the Premier provider of Pre-Paid funeral plans. It reflects the hard work and dedication of our Funeral Directors to meet our customer's needs. What is more important is that we are achieving consistency throughout the Groups nine offices which stretch from Torpoint to Tavistock and Torquay across the South West Peninsula".





# Pengelly Funeral Service

139 Fore Street, Saltash PL12 6AB

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24 hour service 365 days a year  
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