



# SALTASH AND DISTRICT OBSERVER

*Your only truly "local" newspaper ...*

November 2011 - Issue 232

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## Bridge and Ferry Festivities Finishing with Fireworks

**"I**t was a kind of living thing – the ferry. It wasn't just a machine, it was a real creature." This quote from the "memory bank" set up to record personal recollections of the Saltash ferry clearly reflects the affection and interest which the steam powered chain ferry still evoked fifty years to the day since its final crossing.

The celebrations to commemorate fifty years since the last ferry ran and the following morning, traffic began to flow over the Tamar Bridge brought hundreds of townspeople of all ages to the Waterside. Above them, on the road bridge which was

celebrating its half century a cut-out ferry was linked to the bridge pillars by what was claimed to be the longest knitted ferry chain ever made, which volunteers had been entwining onto the walkway since six that morning. It

attracted attention not only from drivers above and spectators below but local "Spotlight" television presenters.

Down below the Saltash Ferry ran once again, providing a free crossing to Saltash Passage where an exhibition on the bridge and ferry had been mounted in the Old Ferry Waiting Room. The Mayor and Mayoress, Cllr Colin and Mrs Marilyn Oakes made the inaugural voyage, after which there was a continual queue all day for the privilege of reliving the Ferry experience. The return journey could be made in a classic double-decker bus, two of which were among a substantial fleet of vintage and classic cars, and motorcycles many dating from the days when ferry queues would wind out to Burraton Cross and beyond. They later formed a cavalcade across the bridge.

Memories of these queues, of missing a ferry and popping in the pub before the next, and even the probably unique tale of a local resident born on the ferry en route to hospital were among many set out in a display in

Ashtorre Rock Centre. They attracted much interest as did the exhibition laid out by Saltash Heritage and the continuously running Bridge and Ferry related films.

Outside the crowds could feast their eyes on an array of model boats ashore or a display by the Fire-boat and on the racing gig 'Ann Glanville' on the water.

The marquee on the green provided musical entertainment all day and into the evening with a mixture of swing and blues.

Then as darkness fell the richly strident strains of Sound House Brass resounded across the Tamar. Expectant crowds regathered on the Waterside, enjoying the music, the dramatic Circus Stars Fire Show and the general ambience of a special Saltash event.

As the band concluded with a rousing 'Land of Hope and Glory' the anticipated firework display began with a surprise item. Fireworks erupted from across the river, rising from a final Saltash Ferry gently making it way as it had over the centuries towards an illuminated Saltash slipway. Those who



knew and loved the old ferry could reminisce as it eased into its traditional berth.

Then from the Tamar Bridge, temporarily closed to traffic, erupted the first of a truly spectacular display of fireworks. That marked the bridge's first half century of service in fitting style. Well over a thousand awestruck spectators gasped and cheered as a pyrotechnic panoply lit up the sky and a waterfall of light poured from the bridge to the river below. Those of us who believed the atmosphere and the firework display that marked the Royal

Albert Bridge's 150th anniversary could never be matched had to accept that this evening at least equalled it.

The Town is truly fortunate to have the hard working team based at Ashtorre, that once again has given Saltash a day and a night to remember and to go down in local legend. We must also thank the young people of the Fire Cadets and Air Force Cadets who worked hard throughout the day and evening and who once again brought credit to their organisations, the youth of Saltash, and themselves.



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## The Essa Files...

This month the Town Council has been reviewing its priorities – something we do once a year before we look at next year's budget, to make sure that we not missing anything new or continuing to fund anything that it no longer relevant.

This is something I helped start two years ago to make sure that we had regular discussions about our priorities. It's particularly important because there are very few things that a Town Council MUST do, but a lot of things that we want to do even though we aren't legally required to. This is almost the exact opposite of Cornwall Council who have lots of legal obligations, but are cutting much of their 'extra services' that they chose to do in the past – such as grit bins. In fact there are only three things that are legal duties of Town Councils – to consider providing allotments, to consider the reduction of crime and to receive the accounts of parochial charities (of which there aren't any!).

We have decided to keep the regeneration of the Town Centre as our single top priority – something we have worked hard on this year in partnership with others to deliver improved street cleaning, hanging baskets and, hopefully, a free Christmas parking scheme.

After discussion our other high priorities are enhancing the look of empty buildings in the Town Centre; subsidising local economy initiatives such as the Saltash Card; maintaining verges on highways; funding festivals and community groups; providing additional STC allotments and reviving the gardens for allotments scheme; environmental initiatives, crime reduction projects, promoting the development of Saltash Station and continuing the refurbishment of the Guildhall. Within the Town Council itself our high priorities are regaining 'Quality Town Council' Status and Staff and Councillor Training.

The council's next job is to plan our budget for next year so that we make sure that we do all of this things, as well as our dozens of 'medium priorities' properly!

## Free Christmas Parking Proposed

**L**ast year Saltash Christmas Shoppers were encouraged to use the Town's shops by free parking being provided during the week before Christmas.

This year it is proposed to extend the free shopping in Saltash to cover the whole of December.

Cornwall Council which owns the Town's main car parks, will agree to this only if the Town refunds it's lost revenue, estimated at just under £300 per day. Negotiations are ongoing, with the monies to pay for its coming from Section 106 money, sums paid by developers as a condition of planning permission to help regenerate and improve the Town.

Parking would be free from 10 am onwards so as to discourage all day commuters to Plymouth from blocking spaces for shoppers.

Last year's scheme proved

successful save on the days when the car parks were unusable due to icy conditions. The prospect of a similar weather-related problem is being taken into account in negotiations.

The Town Council has approved the scheme in principal if an acceptable agreement can be reached.

**Saltash Christmas Lights Festival**  
Sat 3rd Dec (See inside)  
also featured...

Elite Feet Now Open	.....P3
Hair Dot Comb - Celebrate 10yrs	.....P4
Bliss Beauty - Welcomes Wendy	.....P5
Ploughboy New Owners P6 Glow - Ever Increasing Treatments	.....P7

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## SHERYLL MURRAY MP WRITES...



ON MONDAY 24 October Parliament debated a motion concerning a National Referendum on the European Union. The motion stated: That this House calls upon the Government to introduce a Bill in the next session of Parliament to provide for the holding of a national referendum on whether the United Kingdom should (a) remain a member of the European Union on the current terms; (b) leave the European Union; or (c) re-negotiate the terms of its membership in order to create a new relationship based on trade and co-operation.

I have always been a great believer in giving people their say. I am a strong supporter of the Government's localism agenda, giving my constituents of South East Cornwall more of a say of how our area develops. They too should have a say over how they are governed and I now think the time is right that the Government goes back to the country over the powers Europe has. Many of my constituents were not able to vote in the previous referendum now

over 30 years ago. You would have to be in your fifties now and that referendum was done asking a very different question in a very different Europe. I have always had my doubts about the direction of some aspects of our relationship with Europe. Take fishing for example. I have long campaigned that we repatriate this to the British Government and that is part of the renegotiation under this motion I would like to see happen.

The decision to vote against the Government's instruction was not one that I took lightly.

I will continue to support the government on most issues because I believe they are doing what is right for the country - especially over the economy.

However there are issues when where I and many of my constituents think a departure from the party line is the right thing for South East Cornwall.

I would like to thank the many constituents who got in touch with my office asking me to take this course of action and the many more who contacted me following the vote to assure me that I had carried out their views and wishes on this issue.

### SALTASH U3A

The meeting opened with a welcome from our Chairman Mike Scott, especially to our several new members.

Sue Martin has once again produced a bigger and better Newsletter, and copies were distributed to all members present.

A full colour version of the Newsletter can now be viewed on line by contacting Sue Martin at trehan45@talktalk.net. To save sending by post to members not able to attend the meetings, volunteers were called for to deliver the newsletter in their neighbourhood. At present the Newsletter has no name, so a competition was suggested to come up with a suitable title, to be in by, and voted on, at the November meeting.

The Saltash Town Quiz on November 18th will be at Saltash.net school, and anyone wanting to join a team should sign up at the next meeting.

Mike and Shirley Scott reported back on the U3A National Conference which they attended in Nottingham and which they found interesting and informative.

The U3A now has around a quarter of a million members and in 2012 will be 30 years old. Suggestions and ideas to celebrate this event in Saltash would be welcome.

There is a Discovery trip to Ford Park Cemetery with guided tour on October 27th, starting at 2pm. Details from Bernadette on 842935.

Patricia Lewis has started a Playreading Group, telephone 844751 for details.

Our Speaker this month was Marilyn Bishop, a local artist, who gave an interesting talk entitled "International Art Theft".

### Make your Voice heard!

Saltash Gateway CIC is hosting the second Health and Social Care Network meeting on Wednesday 30th November in the Guildhall from 4pm-6pm.

Following on from the success of the first meeting last month, the Network continues to collect and represent the views of local people concerning health and social care services in the Saltash area.

Responding to the question "do you want a wider choice of health and social care services delivered locally?" the Network has invited Dr Neville Devonport from the Saltash Health Centre and Paula Bland, who takes a lead on Practice Based Commissioning within

the Primary Care Trust to address the meeting.

We would like to welcome anyone who is interested in finding out more about the planning and delivery of health and social care services in our area. This is an informal meeting with plenty of opportunity to share your views, voice your concerns and ask questions.

For further details go to [www.saltashgatewaycic.co.uk](http://www.saltashgatewaycic.co.uk) or call Peter Thistlewaite (CIC Director) on 07813 890416.



### CORNWALL COUNCIL

& our PL12 community

For Observer readers

From Councillor Derek Holley

Pill Ward Saltash

TWO THINGS about the Cornish economy this time. Bear with me as I get to the first one as there is a bit of a preamble to start with.... There are lots of things that make me proud to be a Saltash resident. I know for a fact that there are other towns that are green with envy about some of the things that we seem able to put on. A Cornwall Councillor from another local town said (miserably) to me that this indeed was the case and his town never seems to do such good things. I am not referring just to results like the internet poll which put us as the most desirable postcode in which to live: that is a result of a combination of factors including good schools, local organisations and sporting teams, low crime, nearness to but separated from a big city, access to moor, beach and superb walking, good housing etc etc. Neither am I referring to the friendliness of our people. I am more interested now in the side issues, in this case the side shows that go on and are the icing on an interesting cake.. Last weekend for example Ashtorre, the volunteer-run waterside community centre and cafe, led by Lynne Marsh and her team, put on a celebration of the 50th anniversary of the last crossing of the chain ferry. In the evening the Tamar Bridge itself joined in and put on a superb firework display to mark its 50th anniversary. Thank you to both Lynne, the Highways Agency for the permissions and to David List, Bridge Manager for his efforts. If you have never seen one of these displays and have a computer then just put in "tamar bridge fireworks" or "youtube tamar bridge fireworks" and see for yourself. Now this is the first point about our Cornish economy: these events gain UK and worldwide coverage and are worth hundreds of thousands of pounds of free

advertisement for Saltash, Cornwall and Plymouth. We need that publicity to bring in tourists who, like it or not, are the life blood of our region and whose money keeps a huge number of jobs and services going. I am saying this because we all moan and groan about tourists and the queues and the parking problems, but the bottom line is that we need them fairly desperately to keep us afloat. We just cannot go back to the old days when the world was different and there were jobs in farming and mining. We cannot blow up the bridge to isolate Saltash once again, that is pub talk, it is fun but not realistic in this modern world. Accordingly even here in Saltash, which is not a typical Cornish tourist town, we talk in council about the visitors and how to provide for them.

The second Cornish economy thing is a real conundrum. Some months ago I mentioned the embattled village of St Dennis which was to have a huge incinerator (heat-from-waste plant) to safely burn all our Cornish waste built in its backyard. Well the government made a bit of a mess of the application and did not take properly into account an environmental factor. A judge has thrown it all out. St Dennis is happy again but possibly not for long. Second bottom line and the economy thing? Without something similar, either there or elsewhere we will all suffer from enormous landfill and compensation fines totalling hundreds of millions. Now that is a Cornish conundrum.

I have been saddened this week to hear of the death of Ben Schikowsky. Ben and his late wife Marjorie served Saltash and SE Cornwall in many ways for many years. He was a good man and I will miss him.

Christmas is coming, the goose is getting fat, along with the bankers....

## "Beeching of the Buses" Threatens Saltash Services

Bus services linking Saltash to Callington and North Cornwall, to Liskeard and West Cornwall, and to Looe, remain at risk following Cornwall Council's decision to reduce its subsidy to compensate bus companies for concessionary fare passengers.

Initially Graeme Hicks, Cornwall's transport portfolio holder announced back in the Summer that bus companies currently paid 73.5% of the full fare for each senior citizen or disabled person travelling free with a concessionary pass, would receive only 43.5% of that fare and that this reduction would be backdated to last April. Immediately bus companies advised that this would make at least 37 routes in the County uneconomic, these would be withdrawn, and other have their services considerably reduced. They also threatened court action "which Cornwall would lose" over the backdating.

A subsequent meeting was held with bus operators, user groups, community bus schemes and the public at which a representative from Group Travel described Cllr Hicks' proposed cuts as "the Beeching of the bus routes," reflecting Dr Beeching's infamous 1960's slashing of the nation's rail services.

The bus companies made clear that while they were prepared to try and make some savings without reducing services these were limited as they do not make great profits, and they could only do so with proper consultation with Cornwall Council.

It transpired at the meeting

that Cornwall officers admitted "we do not know the impact of the cuts until we make them" and that the likely impact of the cuts on the education budget, affecting school students' transport had not been discussed with the Education Department. Councillors present asked for a full equality and economic impact assessment on each proposed (or possible) cut since the impact would be different for each route.

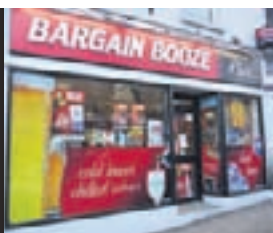
Following the consultation Cornwall Council agreed to reduce their subsidy to 50%, an increase on the 43.5% proposed, and to invite all bus companies to re-tender for their services this Autumn.

It seems that all services will be safe until next April when the Summer 2012 timetable will come into operation. While the First National 1 and 1A services to Plymouth seem secure, Western Greyhound's services from Saltash into Cornwall still face the threat, from next year, of being curtailed or reduced.

Meanwhile councillors have been requested to lobby their respective MP's as to concessionary pass holders being asked to pay a flat fare, or a proportion of the full fare, in order to help maintain bus services through rural areas of Cornwall.

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## From The Mayor's Parlour...

I MUST begin by thanking Councillor Martin and Mrs Maggie Gee, Deputy Mayor and Mayoress for stepping in and covering my duties following a family bereavement. They attended the past Mayor's charity donation evening and the Probus 21st Anniversary celebration at the Holland Inn and for that, I am most grateful.

Marilyn & I had the great pleasure of attending the 100th birthday celebration of Mrs Mocroft at Saltash Wesley. What a fantastic lady and a lovely family, we were made to feel most welcome.

We were also invited to two concerts organised by the Sue Hooper Charitable Foundation, The Camborne Youth Band and the Hywell Girls Choir and Boy Singers, supported by the Tintagel Orpheus Male Voice Choir. It was fantastic to see so many dedicated and energetic young people and we really enjoyed both concerts.

We attended the Saltash Music, Speech and Drama Festival AGM and were pleased to hear that next year's event is well on the way. We are very fortunate to have this event in Saltash every year and we are looking forward to the next Festival in February.

We were delighted to represent Saltash at the Freedom of Torpoint Ceremony of HMS Raleigh and to attend the Royal Naval Association annual dinner in Saltash. It is always a great privilege to meet and talk to those who have served in the Armed Forces.

Whilst on this subject, please remember that on 11th November at 11am, I will be holding a 2 minutes silence in Fore Street to remember all the men and women who have given their lives to make our country a safer and better place in which to live. Please join us if you are able.

We attended the Saltash Age Concern Social Club 25th Birthday celebrations and we all enjoyed ourselves. We have also visited the Fire Station for the passing out for Fireworks, a scheme to give people new skills in not only fire fighting but also teamwork, commitment and confidence.

It was wonderful to see so many Saltash residents enjoying the Saltash Ferry 50 festival, what a great day with so much going on, it brought back so many memories of crossing the Tamar by ferry. The event finished with a fantastic firework display on the Tamar Bridge. Congratulations to all involved in organising this fantastic event.

We also enjoyed the evening with the Saltash Video Group where we watched some historical footage of the Ferry and the building of the Tamar Bridge.

During October we attended the largest Craft Fair I have ever seen at the Wesley Church, there were stalls in every room selling lovely items.

I would like to thank everyone who attended my Charity Cheese and Wine evening which was sponsored by Waitrose. We all had a great evening and the proceeds will help my chosen charities.

Please don't forget my Community Friendship Dinner on Friday 25th November at the China Fleet Club. Tickets are still available from the Guildhall and this is a great opportunity for our community to come together and find out all that goes on in Saltash. For more information, please call the Guildhall on 844846, I promise you it will be a good night!

*Town Mayor &  
Cllr Colin Oakes*

## FERRY 50 FESTIVAL

### Programme of Events

Fri 11 Nov Murder on the Ferry. A Murder Mystery evening to include supper.

Tickets - £12 Bring your own tippie!

Fri 9 Dec "Working with Steam in Cornwall" – Philip Rundle MBE. Free admission

All events start at 7.30 pm and take place at Ashtorre Rock, Waterside, Saltash unless otherwise stated.

Tickets and further information available from Lynn Marsh, Tel: 01752 844255 or [lynnsmarsh@aol.com](mailto:lynnsmarsh@aol.com) [www.saltashferrylink.com](http://www.saltashferrylink.com)

## National Recognition for saltash.net Science Teacher

Teacher, Nicki Bovey, from saltash.net community school was named Science Teacher of the Year 2011 at the prestigious National Teaching Awards Ceremony in London on Sunday 30th October.

Nicki's outstanding classroom practice was recognised by both the regional and national judging panels. Students, staff, parents and governors all confirmed during two rigorous judging visits that Nicki's Science teaching is first class and her commitment to wanting to help all students in her care achieve the best they possibly can is second to none.

Nicki is passionate about making Science exciting, engaging and accessible for students across the age and ability range. As part of a very strong Science team at saltash.net, she has helped to transform the department, making it now "one of the best in the country" according to the National Teaching Awards judges with large numbers of students opting to take Science at A Level, and continue at University.

Part of Nicki's success story is also about her superb commitment to the wider life of the school. It was her idea to have a school dog and three years ago Max, a springer spaniel puppy, joined the saltash.net community. Max, along with Nicki, has helped a number of students over the years feel a bit better about school or things in general when times have been difficult or challenging. Nicki has also led three World Challenge expeditions to Thailand, South Africa and Bolivia as well as being an ardent and active participant in Duke of Edinburgh and Ten Tors training.

Accompanying Nicki to the star studded Ceremony at the Palace Theatre in London were Heads of Science Ollie Lee and Chris Henderson, Deputy Head and Science Teacher, Dan Roberts and Head Teacher Isobel Bryce. Speaking after the event, Mrs Bryce said, "We are all incredibly proud of Nicki and what she has achieved for her students, for the school and for Science. I think it is excellent that in this new



Awards category the first National Teaching Award for Science has gone to a woman. Nicki is an excellent role model for all young, budding Scientists."

Nicki, who was joined at the ceremony by her husband, Simon, said, "It is a great honour to have been given this Award. I work with fantastic students and staff and saltash.net is an amazing place to be a teacher."

## First Responders

Local life-saving first responders who are first on the scene in emergencies were delighted to receive a cheque from former Mayor Adam Killea for over £1000.

Saltash First Responders were the main beneficiaries from last year's Mayor's Charity and the former Mayor donated the money to Matthew Oakes and Keiran Bignell at the Guildhall in the presence of this year's Deputy Mayor Martin Gee. The money will go towards additional medical equipment enhancing First Responders ability to render urgent treatment in the vital minutes before an ambulance arrives. The group are currently seeking to obtain a car for this purpose and thus avoid the crippling insurance costs of using their own vehicles.

Last year's Mayor also made lesser but welcome donations to various organisations that had been especially helpful or hospitable to himself and his Mayoress Merryn during their year of office. These included Saltash Heritage, Fire Cadets, Air Cadets, St Annes Home, Kingsleigh House and the Royal British Legion. This last payment was especially welcomed as being the first received to open this year's local Poppy Appeal in preparation for Remembrance Day.

## Community Bus is Coming

Saltash already has its own community bus, a sixteen seater with a wheelchair lift fitted. Once financial arrangements are in place for insurance, maintenance and administration and once sufficient volunteer drivers have come forward the bus will be put into service bringing passengers in from the outlying areas and villages and taking them home.

A need for such a service was identified during a 2009 Community Transport Survey, Liam Bradley of the Community Interest Company advised the Town Council. Discussions have been ongoing with other Towns including Launceston and Ivybridge that have been successfully operating similar services, and the service should begin an eight month trial period to confirm where the needs are. It is intended to run up to fifteen return services a day to include all from the elderly visiting surgeries, shops and day care, to youngsters spending evenings at K3 and Livewire Youth Clubs. The bus will also be available for private hire when not otherwise in use, in order to boost income for what is hoped should become a self sustaining service.

The bus has also been listed as a community project on the NatWest Community Force Challenge open to the public vote. The most popular project in each area will be awarded £6,500.

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## Three Bog Standards

Saltash and other Town Councils are again being encouraged by Cornwall Council to take responsibility for their own public conveniences.

Cornwall is grading public conveniences throughout the county into three different standards dependent upon what level of financial support they should receive. The third grade are destined for closure.

Already many conveniences have been closed including, in Saltash, Alexandra Square, St Stephens and Callington Road.

The Town council is willing in principal to consider taking on responsibility for local public toilets. However, they are

seeking further information as to what if any, financial support Cornwall Council would continue to offer towards maintenance costs. They are also concerned that there should be no immediate capital expenses to be paid by the local community charge payer in Saltash. The Alexandra Square conveniences were closed as a result of the drains needing expensive attention and it is feared that the same might apply to other local conveniences - an inconvenient truth

*Jayne & Martin welcome you to...*

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Cornwall

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saltash.nhs@regionalhearingsservices.co.uk

## Diary Date...26<sup>th</sup> Nov to 7<sup>th</sup> Dec

**Christmas Tree Festival Celebrate Five Fabulous Years**  
**Have you ever visited a Christmas Tree festival ?**

It's a magical way of starting the off the Christmas season. For four years now SS Nicholas & Faith church Saltash have been hosting a delightful display of lit and decorated Christmas Trees dressed by lots of the town's clubs, societies, schools and organisations. This year the event looks like growing again and there will be at least 50 trees to admire.

During the event from **10am Saturday 26th November to 6pm Wednesday 7th December** there will be musical interludes by the church choir and other musical groups.

We have a look and see quiz for youngsters

We also serve teas and coffees at the weekends.

**Christmas Bazaar on Saturday 3rd December.**

So come along and join in a stunning event.

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Pictured: Hazel of Treasure Island held a raffle at the Lights Festival in aid of Rotary (Photo2010)

## Free Parking at Christmas?

Saltash Town Council has agreed to go forwards with a plan that would see free parking in Saltash every day from 10am from 1st-24th December. It needs only final agreement of the details and funding with Cornwall Council before it is definitely confirmed.

The plan was drawn up by the Saltash Town-centre Improvement Group (STIG) – a group of Town Councillors, Saltash Gateway Community Interest Company, Traders and the Chamber of Commerce. It is part of a whole package of measures brought forward to boost the centre, including the Street Powerwash, Hanging Baskets, Saltash Card and better signage.

Free Christmas parking will increase footfall and spending in the Town Centre during the critical Christmas period. Last year the Town Council trialled a 5-day free period, which gained great public support.

## The Bookshelf Saltash

Jill and Pip along with the Staff  
Would like thank you all

For your support this year

See you on the 3rd for **SWEETIES**

**Telephone 01752 845804**

www.thesmallbookshelf.co.uk

## Professional Hair Care for a Discerning Clientele

A recently restyled salon to welcome new clientele and the many who have become regular visitors over the past decade has been one of Hair. Comb's means of celebrating ten years of offering a hair styling service appreciated by those of all generations.

Over those ten years Jane Horsham, who has twenty-five years experience of hairdressing, has enjoyed catering for a growing clientele, male and female, who appreciate a personal and professional service. Jane and her team have in particular come to specialise in preparing their discerning clientele for special events, in particular wedding and hair up celebrations.

Brides, and indeed full bridal parties, can book appointments knowing that they can depend upon perfection for that big day. Proms too have created an increasing demand and Jane is now encouraging young students to make appointments for a Christmas practice hair do in preparation for next summer's prom.

Male customers are accommodated with equal professionalism and with them in mind, Jane is now commencing a 'gentlemen's' Wednesday' each week with all cuts at £6. And to cater for busy customers male and female late evening opening on Wednesdays can be arranged by appointment. At other times appointments are recommended but not always necessary.

One factor for her Salon's success over the past decade Jane believes is her continuous reliance on Fudge hair products. She is proud to continue to be the exclusive user in the area of these quality products.

She also owes her success, she is certain, to her professional and hard working team. Lucy and Laura began as her apprentices, have stayed with her since qualifying and have between them thirteen years of service to Hair.Comb, while Kerri who came to her already fully qualified has been a part of the team for six years.

As she marks her tenth year in the Town Jane would like to thank all of her loyal and much loved staff, and above all her longstanding customers for their support.

The past ten years has seen many changes in local businesses. The continuing success of Hair Dot Comb through hard financial times, Jane attributes to the fact that she has restricted herself to running the business that she knows best, providing a professional hair care service for a discerning clientele who keep returning and recommending Hair Dot Comb to others.

She looks forward to welcoming customers old and new as she enters her eleventh year, and as a special thank you to mark Hair. Comb's special anniversary she is offering £5 off any colour service for the month of November. Now is an ideal time to make an appointment to ensure one is looking ones very best for the Christmas and New Year party season.



Jane Thanks her Loyal Staff  
as she Celebrates 10yrs in Business

## Puppets on Parade in Museum Big Draw

Fairies fluttered and Jumping Jack clowns capered in Saltash Heritage Museum as around ten children enjoyed the Big Draw.

Saltash Museum's current exhibition on education was entitled 'Please Sir!' and the theme of the big draw was 'Please Sir, can I make a puppet?' Children were soon involved in cutting out and colouring in to produce some fantastic fairies and colourful clowns.

The children were also invited to name Saltash Heritage's newly acquired child mannequin which will appear, appropriately dressed, as part of future exhibitions.

From a variety of names suggested by the children, the chosen one was 'Jessica.'

Sue & Debbie welcome you to...

## PETIT PAIN

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**Tel: 01752 849238**

**HAIR.DOT.COMB**

*Celebrating 10Years in business*

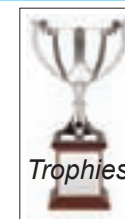
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Lights Festival**

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saltash  
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**email: enquiries@regionalhearingservices.co.uk**

## Special Offer on Hearing Aid Batteries

For our regular clients  
and non clients

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**On 01752 840835** Abby on Reception



## Lantern Parade Highlight of a "Victorian Christmas" to Greet the Festive Season

A traditional Dickensian Christmas will be the theme when Fore Street closes to traffic as Saltash welcomes in the festive season with a variety of street entertainment to put one and all into the Christmas Spirit.

The 3rd December, the first Saturday of the month will see the Town filled with Festive fun. This will begin in the morning with a Christmas Gift and Craft Fair opening for the day in Victoria Gardens. Anyone wishing to take a stall (new items for sale only please) is invited to contact the Guildhall or call 844846.

Then at one o'clock the street will close and the fun begins. Our lovely Saltash shops, most of them locally owned and specialising in offering a degree of local service unobtainable in the big cities, are being encouraged to enter into the Victorian Christmas spirit with period window displays and costumes.

The theme will be maintained with the period entertainment to include a Victorian steam organ, a French Victorian roundabout and a traditional coconut shy to bring fun to all ages.



Younger children will be especially entertained with treats such as the Drake's Den Play bus while street entertainment will include such local favourite as Unicycle Sam and, it is hoped, a stilt walker. Traditional Christmas music will be provided by the rejuvenated Saltash Town Band, with a more modern mode of music from Hi-Jack.

Local groups are invited to enter into the spirit by dressing costume to sing carols through the street, again please contact the Guildhall for information.

As darkness falls on the short December day, Saltash will be illuminated firstly by a lantern parade, a 'first' for this Christmas.

All week a series of workshops at the Town's four primary schools and at Age

Concern will have been busy making willow and paper based lanterns to hold electric lights.

At 4.30pm, the lantern holders will assemble at the Guildhall for what is hoped will be a dramatic and magical march of the lanterns up to the top of Fore Street. Here they will join the civic procession, led by the band, down to the arena at the foot of Fore Street where our newly installed Lord Lieutenant of Cornwall, Colonel Richard Bolitho, will officially switch on Saltash's stream of festive lights and welcome the Christmas season to Saltash. This will be followed – as it has been over the decades in the Town, by the Mayor's open air carol

service with one and all encouraged to raise their voices to accompany the band in those favourite carols that make all feel that Christmas is really on its way.

Anyone wishing to know more about the lantern making and in particular willing to volunteer to help put together the cane lanterns on the Saturday morning is again asked to contact Saltash Guildhall on the above number.

In the event of bad weather the Carol Service will be switched to the Wesley Church but it is surprising how rarely this has proved necessary over the years.

Fore Street traders will as ever be ready to welcome locals and visitors and help them to choose that very

special present, often something unobtainable in the superstore. Since the Summertime they have been busy stocking up with seasonal gifts, foods and drink, ready for Christmas. Shopping in the friendly small Town atmosphere of Saltash, away from the crowds, the traffic and the parking problems, is always a pleasure reminiscent of Christmases past. This year, on 3rd December, with the street closed to traffic but filled with fun and entertainment and with the themed Victorian Christmas prevailing, it should be a very special time to enter into the seasonal spirit whilst enjoying shopping in Saltash.

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

## Intrigue Fashions

**Warm Winter Wear  
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**Lots of Great Ideas for Christmas**

**GIFT VOUCHERS & SAVINGS CLUB AVAILABLE**

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## Treasure Island Gifts & Picture Framing

**You Name it – We'll Frame It!!**

**Great Gifts at Affordable Prices**

*Hazel & Mike are pleased to support the  
 Christmas Lights Festival*

*Seasonal Greetings to everyone*

**95 Fore St Saltash Tel: 849793**

## VanEssa Menswear

**31-33 Fore Street Saltash**

**Fantastic Winter Fashions**

**Now in Stock**

**Warm Winter Overcoats & Leather Jackets**

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**Great Ideas for Christmas**

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**Saltash - Cornwall - PL12 6AF**

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34 Fore St Saltash**

## Bliss Beauty

**Crystal Clear Skincare**

*Only available at Bliss Beauty*

**Paula Welcomes**

**Wendy to the Team**

Since she proudly fitted out and opened Bliss Beauty Salon in April this year Paula has been overwhelmed and delighted at the firm client basis that has developed. With many of her clients becoming regulars and others coming to appreciate the Bliss beauty treatments, she is pleased to introduce Wendy Fahey now joining the team in Top of the Town Courtyard and who will enable the salon to open six days week, now including Mondays. Wendy, a fully qualified beautician, will work alongside Paula and qualified masseuse Kathryn Westlake. Bliss Beauty can now offer a vast array of beauty treatments including manicures, pedicure, nail enhancements, minx, PHD waxing, and tanning. Hopi ear candling is an increasingly popular new service, alongside ear piercing, facial treatments, including all aspects of lashes, make-up, Crystal Clear Skincare and massage.

With Christmas fast approaching existing customers and those who have yet to experience the very special Bliss Beauty Treatment, are encouraged to book their pre-Christmas appointments to avoid disappointment.

*Also with the festive season in mind, Bliss gift vouchers are now available as that special present for a special person.*

**Christmas Gift Vouchers Available now**

**Tel: 01752 842807 M: 07766 031 489**

**For more information**

**e: Paula\_Blissbeauty@hotmail.co.uk**

**The Courtyard Saltash PL12 6JR**



Wendy Fahey Joins Paula at Bliss

## In The Pink

**At Bliss Beauty**

**Aroma Therapy Massage  
Using Essential Oils for Therapeutic  
Treatments to suit personal needs**

**Christmas Gift Vouchers available**

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 The Courtyard Saltash PL12 6JR**



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**Supporting Saltash Christmas Lights Festival**



# Mike and Joan are the New Owners of “The Ploughboy” ...

## Plans are well underway for a Fantastic Festive Season

New to “The Ploughboy” but a familiar figure for many years in the local licensing trade Mike, together with his partner Joan, are delighted that at last 'The Ploughboy' is under their new ownership and they can commence making the changes that they have long been planning.

They promise a fresh start at this popular Burraton Cross hostelry, in order to bring it up to being a lively and welcoming family inn at the heart of its local community.

Many will remember Mike from his many years behind the bar at the 'Brunel' but may be unaware of his extensive experience in the licensing trade. At one time this included the simultaneous management of seven different licensed premises.

Joan has moved back from Spain, where she has lived for eleven years, and while she looks forward with

some trepidation to the British Winter she is eagerly throwing herself into ensuring a real traditional Christmas spirit is shared by all regulars and visitors to the “Ploughboy” during the run up to the Christmas season. She is delighted to be in Saltash where her daughter and four grandchildren are living.

Their first few weeks were largely taken up with the organising of the opening party to celebrate and to welcome all, old customers and new, to the Ploughboy. See your

December “Observer for more on the party fun.

Those attending the party and others who call in for a meal or a drink will already be noticing that Mike and Joan are in the process of a large scale refurbishment. Mike is rising early each morning setting to work long before opening time in order that the Ploughboy may soon set a new standard of comfort and cleanliness.

Already the staff, many of whom are familiar to regular customers, have been proud to don smart new uniforms which they wear together with a smile of welcome for all who come to enjoy the experience of the new-look “Ploughboy Inn.”



Mike & Joan relax before...The Party Started

### Mike’s has Considerable Experience in Bar Management

Mike has brought his considerable experience of bar management to his own establishment in order to ensure that the Ploughboy offers the finest range of beers, wines and spirits all kept and served to perfection.

Real ale fans can rest assured that Courage Best, as well as the Cornish favourites Tribute and Doom Bar, will be lovingly drawn by hand to be served at optimum temperature and in perfect condition.

Alongside is a wide range of other beers, lagers and ciders, served either chilled or super chilled according to taste. There is of course a full range of spirits and of soft drinks.

A variety of fine wines are offered to be enjoyed with a meal in the restaurant area, or at the bar. These can be ordered by the bottle or by the glass.

### Joan Promises to Go Overboard for the Season she so Loves

If you notice the Ploughboy has practically disappeared behind its array of Christmas decorations this will be thanks to Joan who has promised to “go overboard” for the season that she so loves. She is hoping to provide a few seasonal surprises for children and parents who still share the seasonal spirit.

The Christmas party menu is available throughout December up to Christmas Eve. Families, offices, and clubs and societies are invited to bring their party to the Ploughboy.

They can share the spacious restaurant or enjoy one of the two function rooms which can cater for up to two hundred in total. Please call in for a menu or telephone to arrange for one to be sent on.

Christmas Day promises to be very special at the Ploughboy. For those who wish to enjoy the fun while and sitting down to all the trimmings without the hard work this entails, the Ploughboy, Mike and Joan will be hosting a superb

Christmas lunch of four courses plus coffee and mince pie. The spirit of Christmas is guaranteed to be present and overflowing.

Please ask to see a menu and book early to avoid disappointment.

The two extensive function rooms can also be booked for any event by a family, club or business. There is already a demand developing for their use as families come to the Ploughboy for Christenings, weddings, anniversaries and other celebrations as well as wakes. The head chef John will be delighted to discuss individual requirements ranging from finger buffet to three or four course meal.

### An Extensive New Menu has Been Introduced



The Chef and Staff show off their new uniforms

As a family friendly pub with a spacious restaurant area away from the bar the Ploughboy under Mike and Joan's ownership is aiming to be especially child friendly. The very youngest visitors can have fun in the outdoor or the indoor play area depending on the weather and there is a special childrens' menu.

Already the weekday restaurant opening has been put forward to 5 pm to accommodate families with children straight from school. Weekday hours for food are midday to 2.30 pm and 5 pm to 8.30 pm. On weekends the food is served continually from midday until 8 pm.

An extensive new menu is being introduced, all “very much home cooked” Joan promises. Food is locally sourced from Devon and

Comwall and cooked to order. Vegetarians are well catered for, and in addition to the regular menu it is well worth checking out Chef John's ever changing “specials” board.

Already proving popular is the re-introduced Sunday carvery, served alongside the regular menu. Bookings for Sunday meals are strongly advised though not always essential.

Senior citizens can enjoy their own special Monday and Tuesday lunches.

With its large restaurant area and two special function rooms the Ploughboy welcomes organisations, clubs and coach parties, preferably by prior arrangement.

The Ploughboy looks forward to welcoming individuals, couples, families and groups to enjoy the finest of fare in pleasant and relaxing surroundings.

### Live Music is on the Cards for the New Year

Following the fun and frenzy of Christmas with its programme of disco music to suit all, look out for a regular programme of entertainment in the New Year. Already Mike and Joan are looking to book the very best of live acts in order to present a varied programme to ensure enjoyment for all tastes.

Meanwhile, Mike has been busy reconnecting with old acquaintances to build up what he hopes will be formidable darts, pool and euchre teams. These are already competing in leagues but new members are welcome.

For those who prefer viewing to participating these is live sport televised throughout the bar area, though not in the restaurant which will continue to be a TV free zone.

UNDER NEW OWNERSHIP

At Last Mike & Joan have now become the New Owners of

THE PLOUGHBOY

Liskeard Rd Saltash

Mike & Joan welcome you to join them, they promise a fresh start with lots of new plans in store

‘Carvery’

Sunday Carvery £6.25

Children 12yrs & under £4.50

Bring your family and friends and share in the Christmas Festivities we have planned for you... on this our first Christmas

\*\*\*\*\*

Traditional Christmas Day

4 Course Carvery

£39.95 per adult

£25.00 per child 12years & under

Christmas Party Menu

Available up to 24th Dec

3 courses only £16.95

Book now for your office & family Parties

Private function rooms available

Tel: Chef John for a Party menu/planner to be sent out

Look Out for Further Details of our...

Christmas Entertainment at the PLOUGHBOY

Christmas Eve Sat 24th Dec Disco Night

Christmas Day call in for a Christmas drink 11.30 - 2pm

Boxing Day open 11.30am - 12.30am

Celebrate New Year’s Eve at the PLOUGHBOY

Comprehensive Menu with Specials Board

Brand New Menu Coming Soon

Lunch Menu available from 12noon-2.30pm Mon-Fri

Evening Meals available from 5pm-8.30pm Mon-Fri

Saturdays & Sundays from 12noon-8pm

OAP’s special rates Monday & Tuesday Lunchtimes

Clubs, Organisations & Coaches Welcome

Please book to avoid disappointment

We are open for Morning Coffee & Afternoon Tea.

Call 01752 842861 for bookings

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

Normal menu also available throughout the festive period

-- Bookings advisable --

Check your December Observer for further details of Events & Entertainment, during the Festive Season

THE PLOUGHBOY

Christmas Party Menu

Available 1<sup>st</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> December

Starters:

HOMEMADE SOUP

- Broccoli and stilton served with a granary roll

SMOKED SALMON AND DILL CREAM MOUSSE

- a creamy lemon, dill and smoked salmon mousse, finished with a layer of chopped smoked salmon and dill, served with a salad garnish and melba toast.

BREADED BRIE WEDGES (V)

- two deep fried, melt in the mouth breaded brie wedges, served with a cranberry dip and salad garnish.

SOMERSET ASPARAGUS CHEESECAKE (V)

- a savoury cheese, leek and spring onion base topped with brie and served with salad garnish

Mains:

ROAST TURKEY

- traditional succulent Turkey, served with four seasonal vegetables and roast and new potatoes.

ROAST BEEF

- Cornish topside beef, served with four seasonal vegetables, roast and new potatoes and a Yorkshire pudding.

HADDOCK FLORENTINE

- a fillet of prime haddock, served on a bed of spinach, in a rich cheese sauce and accompanied with carrot and green bean bundles and new potatoes.

MUSHROOM AND WALNUT HOTPOT

- a crisp pastry case surrounding rich, braised mushrooms and onions and topped with slices of potatoes and finished with chopped walnuts. Served with seasonal vegetables and new potatoes.

Desserts:

CHRISTMAS PUDDING

- traditional Christmas pudding, served with brandy sauce or Cornish clotted cream (must be stated on pre-order)

WHITE CHOCOLATE AND RASPBERRY CHEESECAKE

- an individual white chocolate cheesecake on a crumble biscuit base, marbled with raspberry sauce.

ICED HAZELNUT AND HONEY PARFAIT

- this frozen dessert is flavoured with honey and finished with chopped, caramelised hazelnuts and served with Cornish clotted cream.

CHOCOCALATE BOX

- an all butter shortbread base, topped with an indulgent dark chocolate mousse, surrounding a caramel centre...naughty but nice!

Tea or Coffee, & Mince Pie.







**Chef  
prepares  
for the...  
Big Night**

**RD Johns Limited**  
**FOODSERVICE**  
Pleased to continually supply The Ploughboy Inn.  
Wishing Joan and Mike good luck for the future.  
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**Celebrating 40 years in business**

## Mike and Joan Believe in Community Spirit

A local inn should be very much a part of its local community. This is what Mike and Joan firmly believe and already they are ensuring that the "Ploughboy" plays its part in the local and wider Saltash community.

Arrangements have speedily been put under way whereby the Ploughboy should be taking on sponsorship of two boys' football teams.

They are also involving themselves more with the St George's Day Care Centre whose elderly and disabled members lunch at the Ploughboy three times a week. On noticing that they had problems with their occupational therapy equipment Mike set to work and the following day was able to offer them the key to a newly built storage shed.

As they settle to become increasingly a part of their community Mike and Joan look forward to playing a growing role in it.

## Park Abuse Alleged by Salt Mill Resident

The park at Salt Mill is being vandalised and abused by young people coming from all over Saltash and across from Plymouth. As a result local children have been intimidated from using it.

Flagstones laid out for footpaths have been dug up and tossed into the mud, complained one Tamara Estate resident during public question time at a Town council meeting. The holes left had just been infilled with concrete and the flagstones left freestanding by the foreshore.

The wooden decking on the foreshore has become worn, wobbly, and unsafe, she added. The whole area is being abused as a meeting place for under age drinking. Children from the estate and elsewhere who wish to use the skateboarding and mountain bike facilities placed there for their benefit are scared to do so.

Better lighting and more police presence have been requested to help remedy the situation and return the park to the people for whom it was intended.



## Caradon Gig Club Juniors

*The Caradon squad at this years under 16 championships.*

2011 HAS SEEN the junior squad at Caradon Gig Club shine, with 21 juniors actively competing for the club at local regattas. Following the creation of a link with Saltash.net school in 2010, the junior section at Caradon, (widely known for its successful senior section) has blossomed with the club able to consistently field 2-3 crews at events throughout the summer.

The club finished 3rd place out of 16 junior crews in the 'Tribute' summer series which saw the squad compete at a series of events in Looe, Weymouth, Rame and Paignton. A strong contingent from Caradon also competed for the 'Callington School Sports Partnership' in the Cornwall School Games, held in June at Stithians Lake. This competition saw the Callington area come home with a silver in both the under 14 girls and boys

category, and gold in both the under 16 male and female category.

The club fielded two junior mixed crews on 'home turf' for the 'Mixed and Veterans' regatta, ran by the club each year which co-incides with the extremely popular Saltash Regatta. The A crew finished 4th and the B crew 9th.

Perhaps the most impressive performances of the year came at the two championship events.

The club put out two crews in the 'under 14' championships, where last year the club finished in 4th place. 30 crews competed at Coperhouse pool in Hayle, and the B crew finished middle of the pack in 14th place after narrowly missing out on the quarter finals. The A crew better their position by one place to finish 3rd in the final to Cadgwith and Coverack junior teams. To reach the final is no mean feat so well done to all!

The final event of the season

was the under 16 championships which had been postponed twice due to poor weather at Newquay. This event was held at Stithians Lake in the glorious weather we had on the 2nd October. Again, two crews were put out. The B crew, made up of 6 under 14 rowers performed brilliantly to finish in 15th place out of 25 crews. The A crew, made up of 3 girls and 3 boys reached the final to finish in a magnificent 4th place. The crew also won a trophy for being the

top 'mixed crew' (3 male, 3 female).

This talented squad of youngsters have more to come as only 3 rowers move up to the adult age group this year – so there is plenty to build upon for next season.

A huge thanks to everyone who has been involved with the juniors this year.

The club have their end of season presentation evening this month, which will include three junior prizes.

## Glow Offer an Ever Increasing Range of Treatments

There have been exciting changes at the Glow Beauty Salon as Lisa and Mel have been restyling the Salon to cater for the increasing range of treatments offered to their ever-growing clientele.

Their many regular clients will notice that there are now three nail stations to accommodate those who appreciate the very special Glow nail service. They have also expanded into a second fully equipped beauty treatment room and Lisa and Mel are pleased to welcome a new beautician Bridie to join the professional team.

Also new to Glow is the latest in fitness inducing technology, a vibration plate, of which it is claimed "a slimmer, stronger you starts here." Ten minutes on the machine is equivalent to an hour's workout for weight, flexibility and for improvement to muscles, circulation, cellulite and bones. This is all part of the

Glow policy of continuous expansion of treatments in order to ensure offering their regular clientele and increasing numbers of new visitors the very latest of trends in all over beauty and fitness treatments.

To ensure that all are able to avail themselves of the Glow service the Salon at the foot of Fore Street, is open late until 9pm each Tuesday and Thursday.

Glow are also to be found at Zero Gravity. Gift vouchers for males and females are always available and are especially appreciated as the festive season approaches.

These can be used for any of the many and varied Glow services including the ever changing variety of



special offers – it is well worthwhile calling by regularly to keep a check on

what is the latest to be made available exclusive to Glow clientele.

## Salon Pro Vibration Plate

Now available  
At

**Glow**

**It's SIMPLE, It's FAST,  
It's QUIET and It's FUN!**

**"Lose a Dress Size in  
3 WEEKS!!!"**

**10min = 1Hr Workout!  
The 10 Minute  
Work-out Making  
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Weight Loss &  
Inch Loss  
Guaranteed  
Results

*Shape up for Christmas*

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## 'Glittering Continuity' comes Together to Celebrate Tamar in Film

The "Devonshire Rhine," as it was described to Victorian visitors, attracted thousands of trippers eager to admire the Tamar's natural beauty when an atmospheric aroma of fumes from tin and copper mines blended with sweeter scents from apple and cherry blossom and ripening strawberries.

Now that ivy softens the ruins of ancient industry and woodland or meadows smother the slopes where fruit grew in profusion the drama and beauty of the Tamar Valley with its varied wildlife and rich history have been recaptured in a film recently released on DVD. "The Tamar – a 'Glittering Continuity'" takes its title from landscape designer Sir Humphrey Repton's

description seen embossed in our own Salt Mill park overlooking the Tamar.

Well known regional broadcaster Craig Rich has collaborated with Peter Wildin, producer of many films of local interest, to produce what is intended to be the ultimate in visual portraits of the river that defines Saltash and has for centuries kept two counties apart while preserving the unique quality of Cornwall. The two discs with a total running time of two and a half hours trace the Tamar from mouth to source following in particular the migrating salmon and sea trout as they make their mysterious journey back to their spawning grounds.

En route we meet with many who live and work on

the river. We learn from professionals how fish stocks are checked and maintained and how they contribute to the economy.

The fishermen, biologists, naturalists and local historians speaking to Craig Rich include many who will be familiar to Saltash audiences and our own ferry and bridges as well as Heritage Museum get a good mention. The grand houses of Cotehele and Pentillie, the medieval "indulgence" bridges and the Victorian "copper capital" of Morwellham are among the many scenes featured and described by those knowledgeable in their history.

But above all it is the magic of the Tamar's natural beauty and the wildlife it attracts above and below the water during the ever changing seasons that should make this a film to cherish and repeatedly enjoy.

Ashtorre, on Saltash Waterside, was a fitting venue for the film's premier at which many of those featured attended to see how the film to which they had contributed over the past three years had come together to pay tribute to the Tamar and its past and present communities. It is now on sale at Saltash Bookshelf, Saltash Museum and other local outlets.

## Conundrum Corner

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

- 1 What was the name of the Brothers' store that featured in the 70s TV comedy series Are You Being Served?
- 2 What Italian term is applied to the text of an opera or operetta?
- 3 With what is Grand Marnier flavoured?
- 4 What is the name given to the breeding ground of Penguins?
- 5 Which is the most difficult face of Mount Eiger to climb?
- 6 The Java Trench is the deepest point of which Ocean?
- 7 Which town was for 6 years the capital of Scotland and is the burial place of Robert the Bruce?
- 8 In Shakespeare's A Midsummer Night's Dream who was the King of the Fairies?
- 9 Where did the first Battle of the English Civil War take place?

Answers on Page 11

## Evening of Car Crime

A month in which eleven thefts from motor vehicles were reported around Saltash saw five such offences take place on one evening, 6th September. The offences were centered around Warfelton Crescent, Essa Road, Alamein Road and Dunheved Road.

There were also, during that month two thefts of pedal cycles, three offences of shoplifting and twelve other thefts. These were in addition to four burglaries, seven criminal damage to vehicles, and two offences each of criminal damage to property and to dwellings. Seven assaults were reported.

Even so crime was considerable down on the equivalent period the previous year, 64 offences overall as against 80 in 2010.

Local children are being encouraged to become 'cyclewise,' advised PCSO Mary Wells who was giving a police report to the Town Council, by means of 'Cyclewise' courses at schools, most recently at Bishop Cornish. Councillors requested that children should also be urged not to leave their bicycles lying flat on the pavement while visiting the Co-op or other town shops.

Graffiti art was to be encouraged, PCSO Mary Wells advised, during a Saturday in October when children were joining with police and Town Councillors to 'tag' a wall set aside for this form of art.



## Hearing Room Staff bring Fun to Fore Street for Needy Children

Bringing fun to Fore Street while collecting for a cause, the staff of the 'Hearing Room' will as ever be entering fully into the spirit of the BBC Children in Need day.

One and all are invited to come to Fore Street on Friday 18th November, share the fun, and perhaps put some spare cash towards making a better life for needy children in Britain and overseas.

As always the girls who are usually busy in the Hearing Room on the south side of Fore Street and the NHS Hearing Room opposite will be donning costume while offering refreshments to all in exchange for some change in the charity box. This year's theme will be Cowboys and Indians, and we feel sure that if it is as lively and colourful as previous years it will be well worth seeing!

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## A traditional Dickensian Christmas will be the theme in Fore Street on Saturday 3rd of December

**F**ore Street traders will as ever be ready to welcome locals and visitors and help them to choose that very special present, often something unobtainable in the superstore. Since the Summertime they have been busy stocking up with seasonal gifts, foods and drink, ready for Christmas. Shopping in the friendly small Town atmosphere of Saltash, away from the crowds, the traffic and the parking problems, is always a pleasure reminiscent of Christmases past. This year, on 3rd December, with the street closed to traffic but filled with fun and entertainment and with the themed Victorian Christmas prevailing, it should be a very special time to enter into the seasonal spirit whilst enjoying shopping in Saltash.

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## Town Band Delight Audience



*Pictured.....Mayoress (Marilyn Oakes) – Sue Hooper (chair of the Sue Hooper Trust) – Mayor (Councillor Colin Oakes) and to the far right Musical Director Chris Spreadbury.*

The Saltash Town Band and Saltash Junior Band delighted the packed audience at St Stephens Church in Saltash on Friday 28th October – presenting an evening of music. Proceeds benefitted the St Stephen's Community Hall. The Bands played music to suit all tastes and were rewarded with rapturous applause and standing ovations – the organisers on behalf of the St Stephen's Community Hall fund were thrilled to announce £445 profit was made. In addition at the concert the Sue Hooper Charitable Foundation were able to admire the smart new sweat shirts worn by the Junior Band which the Trust had recently funded. The Mayor and Mayoress of Saltash were also in attendance (Councillor Colin Oakes and Mrs Marilyn Oakes).

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## Fifties Fantasia in Ferry Festival

It was the age of scientific advance with the Sputnik in space and the Teasmaid in the kitchen. The Crazy Gang were live in London, the 'Mousetrap' hit the stage, while Saltash audiences thrilled to watch the Coronation at the Regal.

'Fings ain't wot they used to be' was the theme for Chris Batters presentation of the '50s', and early '60's', at Ashtorre Rock as part of the Ferry 50 Festival.

Memories were evidently jogged for his audience as smoochy ballads and rock and roll recalled days when quiff-headed teenagers could listen to the latest hits in a booth at the back of the record shop. Mothers meanwhile would share Saltash gossip as they

queued in the Co-op for assistants to make up their orders and send the cash flying across the ceiling in a metal can.

A fun quiz tested memories of music, film and television from when audiences marvelled at the first commercial channel challenging the BBC's monopoly. Judging by the answers called out to Chris Batters's period posers the nineteen fifties are alive, and well recollected in local memories.

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 Fri 30th THE JACK  
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## Take Away Bench, Residents Urge

A bench in Callington Road near Pillmere roundabout has been a centre for anti-social behaviour by groups of up to thirty youths, residents complained.

Every weekend, and nightly during school holidays young people create noise, urinate on cars, ring bells, steal and empty dustbins, one frustrated resident told the Town council. "Our children are frightened, my eight year old has been awake in tears." Older youths drive around the roundabout continually at alarming speed, it was stated.

It was agreed that unless Cornwall Council raised any objection the bench would be removed in the hope that this might resolve the problem.

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## Saltash.net World Challenge Peru Team take on the British Weather

One weekend early in September, despite the tail-end of a hurricane or two, saltash.net's World Challenge Peru team set off for their pre-training weekend in the Forest of Dean.

Six students and two members of staff, Miss Suzie Allen and Mr Graham Drewery, set off before sunrise on Saturday 10th September for Ross-on-Wye and arrived raring to begin their adventure at the World Challenge training ground in the Forest of Dean.

The weekend training had the team pitching tents, hiking through forest and up hills and learning about water purification, health and hygiene, being responsible

travellers, using the Trangia to cook, putting up hammocks, emergency rescue procedures and what to do if you lose someone.

The students - Harry Landers, James Williams, Matthew Robson, Ross Raymond-Jones, Jake Serle and Ashley Parker - were amazing. They worked together as a team with the other Challengers and instructors, were considerate and kept the staff laughing all weekend.

They all arrived back late Sunday afternoon tired but oh so excited for the real thing - the 4 week expedition to Southern Peru in July 2012.

## Chamber Fears Loss of Trade from 'Traffic Mismanagement'

Traffic chaos that was jamming solid the streets of Saltash threatened the Town's struggling traders, feared the Saltash Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

At their monthly meeting they hit out at what they described as 'mismanagement' while the Tamar Bridge resurfacing coincided with long ongoing pipe laying in Callington road. 'This important artery into the Town Centre has had traffic come to a total standstill during busy periods on a daily basis,' they complained. Their fears were that Saltash Town Centre might be looked upon as a 'no go' area for shoppers who would be reluctant to return even after the Bridge resurfacing was completed.

Chamber Chairman William Cotton whose family business runs a fleet of taxis and coaches added that one of his drivers was returning more than an hour later than normal from a regular run at the height of the traffic chaos. He himself had taken fifteen minutes just to get out of his own drive.

Shoppers' parking in Fore Street also came in for criticism with long promised yellow lines having failed to appear. Fore Street trader want these lines so that shoppers can use the street for short term parking. Until the lines appear drivers are able to park all day, blocking the spaces from shoppers free of any penalty.

The Chamber resolved to write objecting strongly to what they saw as mismanagement of traffic control during the various road works in and around the Town.

## Road and Roundabout Improvements Envisaged

Roundabouts, including that where the A38 crosses the Callington Road at Carkeel, could be made more attractive, the Town Council has been told. Cornwall County regulations have been amended so as to allow more scope for the Town to landscape and plant out the central area.

Town entrance signs are also now likely to be given the go-ahead. Welcome to Saltash signs at Hatt should be no problem the Highways Agency has confirmed, while progress is being made as to agreement for signs at Natter and by the Tamar Bridge. Appropriate signs can now be designed.

Within the Town improvements planned include a loading bay in St Stephens Road to cut congestion outside the Spar shop. It is also proposed that Barkers Hill, leading from Burraton Combe

to Forder, should be made "one way" up the hill. This is on a bus route and buses have had difficulties and caused damage, while having to back when confronted with a car in this narrow lane. Full consultation with local residents is promised before any action is taken.

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## Incinerator Stack Threatens Saltash Schools and Hospital, Council Claim

An incinerator just over a mile from Saltash and with its stack at a similar altitude to two Saltash schools just across the river from it is strongly opposed by Saltash Town Council.

A formal objection has been lodged by the Town to the proposed incinerator at North Yard in Devonport dockyard.

While Saltash may well be free from the day to day detrimental effects of increased traffic noise and smell that would affect the immediate area the town would inevitably suffer from the fallout of emissions from the incinerator, it is claimed. While it is accepted that technology and filtration would remove much of the poisonous material it is understood that they would not be eliminated and 'ultra-fine particles' could still pose a health risk to those with breathing problems including asthma sufferers.

Especially concern has been expressed for the 1200 students at Saltash.net.Academy, the 200 children at Bishop Cornish School, both overlooking the proposed site and level with its stack, and for patients at St Barnabas Hospital, little further removed from it.

The Town Council also expressed concern as to the mists that often fill the Tamar Valley, an area of outstanding natural beauty, being made more common and prolonged by further massive emissions which could cause the low levels of poisonous emissions to build up to higher levels.

Such a development would be better placed away from towns or cities to minimise the effect and danger to large populations, the Town Council concludes.

They also complain as to the minimal consultation that has taken place in Saltash, that the two consultations were little publicised and that a leaflet drop to each house should have taken place.

## Promises Made on Gas Works Chaos

The long running saga of the gas main workings in Callington Road has caused additional frustration to motorists during the Tamar Bridge resurfacing. Traffic queuing for the bridge has been backed up to the temporary traffic lights in Callington Road leading to total gridlock each morning and many evenings.

Three promises have been extracted from the contractors, County Councillor Bob Austin told the Town Council.

The work should in future be conducted in fifty metre lengths, limiting the distance controlled by lights.

Secondly the traffic lights would be controlled manually during peak times.

Thirdly manpower would be doubled from two to four persons working on site.

The problem of the workforce having to travel down from 'up the line' at the start of each working week, with no work done on Monday mornings does, however, appear insuperable.

Elsewhere a complaint that a mature and attractive flowering cherry tree in Buller Park had been knocked down by workman resulted in a promise of its replacement.

## Film Show Looks at Last Ferry and Building the Bridge

It is exactly half a century since the ferry service which had linked Saltash to England from time immemorial made its last crossing of the Tamar. The next morning traffic began to flow across what was then the longest suspension bridge in Britain ushering in a new era for Saltash.

In opening a series of 'Ferry 50 Festival' events to mark this momentous occasion Saltash Video Group put together a fascinating programme of films at the Ashtorpe Rock Centre on Waterside, the centre of the celebrations.

Among those present to relive those momentous days of 1961 were former ferryman George Blake and Janice Bolland who had travelled from Wiltshire to recall the working of her father Ken Dunsford, himself a ferryman.

A nostalgic film of the fifties in Saltash, a world away from today, was followed by a variety of movies made by the Saltash Video Group on the building of the Tamar bridge, the life of Brunel, and 'Saltash Looking Back.'

Many of those present recognised their younger selves and in his speech of appreciation Mayor Colin Oakes commented that never before had he found himself among so many film stars!

## Travel Firm Help Young Footballers to Go Places



Young footballers promoted to the top league have been inspired by the smart new strip for the season 2011/2012 sponsored by Newells Travel and GHE Tuning.

Saltash United Juniors Under 13's, have had a mixed start to their season at the top but great optimism and enthusiasm is felt by manager Simon Courts and his assistant Simon Gill. They are confident that their encouragement together with the colourful new kit will spur the boys on the field to even greater achievement. The team are pictured here with Simon Courts, Simon Gill and Newells Travel Manager Rachel Gill.

## Major Music Festival Anticipates Increased Entries

Preparations for the 22nd Saltash Music Speech and Drama Festival to be held from 23rd January - 4th February 2012 are under way and Organisers are hoping for an increase in the entries from last year, which was itself excellent. This Festival is one of the biggest in the region.

The speech adjudicator is Janet Tuckett who has a vast experience both in this country and abroad. She teaches mainly in Bristol and has been associated with festivals since she was 4 years old winning many awards. Janet is

delighted to be adjudicating in Saltash again knowing from her previous visit the excellent standard of performance and organisation.

The vocal adjudicator Jeffrey Wynn Davies spent years as a local education advisor in Greater Manchester and has directed many choirs. He has directed seven choral festivals for the BBC as well as being busy as an adjudicator.

David Patrick the instrumental adjudicator is a very accomplished organist and has performed all over the world. He is an examiner for the Associated Board of the Royal School of Music and has had many arrangements published.

Also adjudicating the instrumental section is Timothy Barrett. He has toured in the UK and abroad as soloist, accompanist and chamber music player. Teaching forms a major part of his musical life and he works with pupils of all ages.

The Committee hope to see all previous performers and look forward to meeting new ones.

## GUILDHALL REFURBISHED

The Guildhall has recently undergone a major refurbishment programme which was essential to maintain the fabric of the building for future generations. The works have consisted of repairs to the roof, windows and exterior plaster followed by a total repaint of the exterior. Minor work has also been done to the inside of the building including an upgrade of the public toilet facilities to include a baby-changing unit. The public toilet is available during the normal Guildhall opening hours.

## Non Uniform Day Raises Awareness



saltash.net community school continues to support various charities both locally and nationally by way of holding non uniform days! This month the students raised a massive £520 which is to be divided between Cystic Fibrosis, 'Jeans for Genes' and 'Wear it Pink' Breakthrough Cancer. The donation for Cystic Fibrosis was requested by two students, who have committed to raise £600 in 6 weeks to help fund the next stage of gene therapy research for people with Cystic Fibrosis. saltash.net continues to encourage its students to support those less fortunate than themselves - 'Compassion' being one of its core values.

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letter word: Gondolier  
Oberon 9 Edgehill Nine-  
6 Indian 7 Dunfermline 8  
3 Orange 4 Rookery 5 North  
Answers: 1 Grace 2 Libretto

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## Cornish History in the Hedges

Three thousand years of Cornish history can be traced through our historic hedges.

Aerial photographs of the Cornish Landscape shown to Saltash Old Cornwall Society by their month's speaker Ann Reynolds showed how to distinguish between prehistoric hedgelines, still preserved in parts of Cornwall, and the more 'modern' medieval pattern. She described how kinks in the hedgelines reflected medieval strip fields and curves were a leftover from when teams of oxen pulling a plough had to make a turn.

As close to Saltash as Carkeel, Ms Reynolds showed, strip fields worked by medieval serfs could still be distinguished, as could a circle which she believed might indicate an iron age settlement.

Other pictures demonstrated the wide

variety of styles employed over centuries of laying down slate and granite hedges, many in intricate patterns.

'Hedge furniture' was a fascinating subject with areas of Cornwall having their own distinctive gates and stiles, while South East Cornwall in particular had its 'butterwell,' set in as cool larders.

Cornish hedges are not now economic for farmer to build or maintain and Ms Reynolds advised as to how her department of Cornwall Council encourage the preservation and repair, indeed even the building of new Cornish hedges to keep alive this tradition, one of so many unique to Cornwall.

The next meeting of Saltash Old Cornwall Society will be on Monday 28th November at 7.15 in St Nicholas and St Faiths Church Rooms when Chrissie Le Marchant will talk on 'Kit Hill, History and current management.'

## Musical Magic from the Land of Song

From the Land of Song a children's choir which has made twenty-four international concert tours travelled to entertain Saltash. When the same concert was programmed to include a Cornish Male Voice Choir a memorable evening of music could be anticipated.

So it proved when the Hywel Girls' Choir and Hywel Boy Singers together with the Tintagel Orpheus Male Voice Choir sang in the Wesley Church in support of the Sue Hooper Charitable Foundation.

The children sang in their native Welsh but these versatile youngsters also included English songs from the shows, sacred songs in Latin and even a folk song in the original Hebrew.

The men of Tintagel added stirring hymns and spirituals through to modern musicals to a concert that embraced a wide repertoire of music all sung to as near perfection as only Welsh children and Cornish men can perform.

The concert was in aid of the Sue Hooper Charitable Foundation which provides financial support to local

young people wishing to pursue their studies in the performing arts.

A considerable boost to the funds came from a presentation made during the concert by Sue Frost of the Saltash Co-operative Society of a cheque for £1,000 from the Co-operative Community Fund.

The concert concluded with the Welsh children giving a spirited rendering of a Czech dance song which had the full audience, which included Mayor and Mayoress Colin and Marilyn Oakes, clapping along and seemingly sent everybody home with a spring in their step.

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## Dance Extravaganza Raises £500 for Oncology Department at Derriford



Through a recent Dance Extravaganza, saltash.net community school raised £500 for Derriford Hospital's Oncology Department.

Alison Hancock, PE Teacher and event organiser at saltash.net, suggested to the Hospital that the monies be used to purchase laptops for the Chemotherapy patients, to act as a distraction whilst undergoing treatment. The department was thrilled with this suggestion, so Alison set about making the purchases. Thanks are conveyed to: Currys who provided 2 laptops, 2 dongles and 2 lap mats at a great price; to the school who provided laptop bags; to members of staff and friends who assisted further by providing DVDs which can be watched by the patients.

Moir Campbell, Oncology Sister, Derriford was presented with the donations at saltash.net community school on Tuesday 18th October 2011 by a selection of students who performed at the Dance Extravaganza, PE Teacher, Alison Hancock and Headteacher, Mrs Isobel Bryce. Mrs Bryce said, "We are delighted to have been able to make this donation to assist with such an important area of care at Derriford Hospital. The students involved in the fundraising event worked extremely hard and it is rewarding for them to see that the money raised is going to such a good cause."

## Cordiale Partnership Bears Fruit Juice at Landulph



Simon Bates (Tamar Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty) and Simon Platten (Tamar Grow Local) recently helped 67 children of Landulph Primary School to wash, chop, mill and press a variety of apples. Adult volunteers had gathered the apples from the old orchard on the Pentillie Estate. Some children took juice home in bottles, whilst some took it home in their bellies!

Apples are great to eat (and drink), they are 'on our doorstep' and so have very low food miles. Old orchards are beautiful and valuable for wildlife, and they bring the community together through the act of gathering and pressing apples into juice. This event was held as part of the Cordiale project, which was selected under the European Cross-border Cooperation Programme INTERREG IV A France (Channel) – England, co-funded by the European Regional Development Fund.

The aim of the project is to make the landscape and community more resilient to extreme weather events, rising fuel, fertiliser and energy costs. Orchards meet all of these challenges and make the Tamar Valley distinctive. Indeed, there are several apples, such as 'Hocking Green', that are only found in the Valley.

Simon Platten has been encouraging people to get involved with a whole host of social events involving orchards, from planting to pruning, wassailing and cider making. "Tamar Grow Local is helping community groups to set up local food projects of all kinds. Orchards are particularly popular as they create a lovely community space and provide lots of opportunity for social events. We hope the new orchard at Strawberry Hill, made available by the Pentillie Estate, will become a shining example".

Sammie Coryton from the Pentillie Estate said: "We

were delighted to welcome the team of smiling apple picking volunteers and the AONB to the kitchen garden. Community involvement on the Estate is very important to us, and we were thrilled that the apples went to such a good home at Landulph School. We hope that the orchards both at the Kitchen Garden and at Strawberry Hill will continue to provide a focal point for future community projects."

Head teacher, Mrs Barbara Worth, said: "The day went very smoothly and every pupil at Landulph School took part in the process of making apple juice. It is always good to have practical hands-on sessions with everybody 'having a go', as the children learn so much more. We would like to thank Simon and Simon for being so thorough and enthusiastic, smiling, positive and professional all day. It was so good and we would love to do it all again next year!"

## There's a Stinging Nettle in my Soup!

A thick, delicious and evidently nutritious soup was served to the Friends of Churchtown Farm immediately following their annual general meeting. The ingredients, they were afterwards told, had all been harvested that day on Churchtown Farm Nature Reserve by Andy Pearson who leads regular 'wild food forages' around the reserve. Following the soup he gave an illustrated talk on 'Food for Thought' outlining its ingredients and other wild food available for the picking.

The soup was made up largely of stinging nettles, rich in vitamin C and protein. Other ingredients included dead nettle, goose grass, sorrel, thistle, seabee, cat's ear, dandelions and chickweed.

Most are aware of brambles as a source of blackberries but not so many knew that their tips can be stewed with butter and their leaves are a traditional tonic to aid childbirth. Cinquefoil, also wild at Churchtown, was an Egyptian cure for malaria, while hawthorn flowers are a heart tonic as the berries are used to thicken jam.

Edible fungi at Churchtown include wax-cup, shaggy ink cap and chanterelles, though one needs, of course, to have some knowledge to distinguish them from poisonous specimens. Similarly nutritious wild celery is dangerously similar to fatal hemlock.

On the Churchtown shoreline most seaweeds are edible, including the Welsh favourite laver. Shellfish found thereabouts can be delicious with limpets an

especial favourite of Andy and his family. Mugwort, it was disclosed, goes well with fish while gorse flowers taste like peas.

As processed supermarket food grows more expensive and lacking in nutrients, the Friends of Churchtown Farm were fascinated to see illustrated so many plants that they pass while walking the reserve and which, as their soup proved, is not only full of natural goodness but highly tasteful and enjoyable to consume.

## Keep Sites Free for New Businesses, Chamber Urges

No more sites for businesses to set up in Saltash should be lost to the Town, the Saltash Chamber of Commerce and Industry urged at its annual general meeting. There is still a demand for small business sites which can generate the local economy and boost employment, and such sites should be made increasingly available, not lost for other development, Chamber secretary Peter Dickerson maintained in his annual report to the Chamber.

A year of changes in which a number of new businesses had been attracted to Fore Street and its surrounds enhancing Saltash as a centre to shop, was noted by Chamber Chairman William Cotton. Unfortunately, other businesses had been lost to the Town but overall he felt that the Town had "come out in front" and a projected Factory Shop, now due to open early next year, should further boost footfall in the Town Centre.

The Chamber had attracted a variety of interesting speakers over the previous year including Sheryll Murray

MP and former MP Colin Breed. It had continued to involve itself in planning issues effecting the viability of business in the Town, as well as enhancement of the Town centre including flower baskets and pressure washing of the pavements. It had supported free pre-Christmas parking and supported the Rotary Young Leaders Scheme.

The officers were unanimously re-elected and member Peter Ryland thanked the chairman for continuing to so well represent the Chamber.



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