



SALTASH AND DISTRICT OBSERVER

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October 2010 - Issue 219

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TOWN SAYS YES TO TESCO

A planned third supermarket at Carkeel, immediately adjacent to Carkeel roundabout, has been recommended for approval by Saltash Town Council subject to reservations.

The proposed Tesco store would be 25,000 square feet, slightly smaller than Waitrose, Tesco's planning consultant Mark Scoot told the council. It would cater for the 'weekly shop' and is intended to bring back to Saltash local shoppers who currently travel to Plymouth, Liskeard, or since the opening of Tesco there, Callington. He claimed that of the four hundred to attend the public consultation in the town, 82% of those who made written submissions were in favour of a mid range grocery store on the site. It would provide 220 full and part time jobs, the equivalent of 135 full time positions. In addition the

49 jobs currently in the garage and vehicle showroom sales premises currently on the site would be secured in new premises and a further twenty jobs seemed likely to be created in the relocated site.

The Council had received five letters in opposition to the plan, mostly showing concern over the effect on Fore Street, three in favour, and one on a specific planning condition.

The Town's Chamber of Commerce, Chairman William Cotton stated, opposed the application on the grounds of traffic access.

The Town's Community Interest Company, Chairman Liam Bradley advised, was

concerned to ensure good funding from Tesco to the town in order to mitigate its impact on the area.

A retail assessment indicated that such a store would draw trade from Fore Street and for small businesses such a drop in trade, however small, would affect viability, claimed Cllr. Richard Bickford.

Local trader Ms Jill Male of 'Saltash Bookshelf' sought a specific condition to prevent Tesco selling books. If they were able to flood the market with discounted bestsellers, she claimed, her own business, where she is able to provide a full service supplying books of every sort, would be adversely affected.

Cllr. Martin Gee rejected the argument that Tesco's should be limited to what they sell in order to preserve Fore Street shops. "We live in a capitalist society and this means that shoppers have the choice of where to shop" he claimed.

Mr Scoot, for Tesco, confirmed that if there was a strong feeling locally in favour of Tesco not selling a product, then Tesco would accept this. Their Callington

store had accepted strict conditions as to what to sell in order not to conflict with local traders.

However, Town Councillors decided in a 5 to 2 vote not to support 'Saltash Bookshelf' by seeking a planning condition barring Tesco's selling books.

After discussion it was agreed to recommend approval of the Tesco Supermarket at Carkeel. This was subject to Highways approval and the resolution of traffic issues, to confirmation as to the number of spaces for bicycle parking being thirty, and subject to agreement over cash payment (a Section 106 Agreement) to mitigate the effect of traffic and on Fore Street. This was approved eight votes to nil with four abstentions.

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PUB RAISED A GRAND FOR DEAN'S RUN

While the 'Two Bridges Inn' may have gained a good reputation for its beer and cuisine among local drinkers and diners, few are sufficiently keen to run thirteen miles or so to its doors.

Dean Dark, however, had particular motivation to do so as he set off from Liskeard Hospital to speed to the inn where he works and where his grandparents are landlord and landlady. He was spurred on by the knowledge that generous customers and staff at the Two Bridges were among those sponsoring his run. On downing a well earned pint Dean, aged 18, was thrilled to realise that he had raised over £1,000 for St Luke's Hospice. He had chosen that charity as the local hospice had 'looked after my nan for many years.'

Dean wishes to thank all colleagues, customers and others who sponsored and supported him in raising such a worthwhile sum.

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CRIME FALLS BY A THIRD

Crime figures in and around Saltash continue to fall with reported crimes over the last month down to 64 from 91 over the same period last year.

This represents a fall of around 30%, almost a third.

These figures were presented to Saltash Town Council's September meeting by PCSO Thomas Cornwell.

Of those crimes reported most, as usual, affected vehicles with eleven criminal damage to vehicles and eight thefts from vehicles as well as eight other unspecified thefts. There were four offences of shop lifting, three burglaries, seven assaults and five criminal damage to properties.

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PRESSURE MOUNTS AGAINST 'DEVONWALL' CONSTITUENCY

Changes to parliamentary boundaries which are expected to include Saltash and other parts of South East Cornwall into a Plymouth based constituency are being vociferously opposed as local pressure mouths to keep Cornwall separate.

A 'Keep Cornwall Whole' campaigning group of M.P.'s, councillors, mayors and Cornish organisations has been promoted by our Town Mayor Adam Killeya, who has been appointed its convenor. The group is cross-party and cross-Cornwall.

Mayor Adam Killeya led a delegation up to Westminster

to put personally the case for Cornwall's electoral independence to Deputy Prime Minister Nick Clegg. The visit was arranged through Steve Gilbert M.P. "He gave us a fair hearing but made no promises save to mention the issue to the Prime Minister," the Mayor

told the Observer. Mr Killeya did take the opportunity to present Mr Clegg with three frisbees, one for each of his children, bearing the insignia of saltash.net community school, which had granted him leave from his "day job."

Among other activities to date are the preparation of a draft evidence submission for the House of Commons Parliamentary and Constitutional Reform Committee. Numerous other representations have been made to many including HRH the Duke of Cornwall, the Lord Lieutenant, and local councils throughout Devon and Cornwall have been asked for their support. A facebook group now contains over five hundred members.

As reported in last month's 'Observer' parliamentary plans to reduce the total number of constituencies will leave Cornwall with just five seats and some of its electorate would have to 'lost' to Devon in order to maintain the objective of 70,000 electors for each constituency. 'Keep Cornwall Whole' seeks to promote a special case for Cornwall retaining its own parliamentary seats West of the Tamar.

RAIL FARE PRICE SLASHED

The cost of travelling by train between Saltash and Plymouth has come down. A rare occurrence when all around prices are rising. SRUG (Saltash Rail Users Group) have successfully argued that the previous fare level was too high and not consistent with other local fares.

So instead of increasing to £3 for an adult Off Peak Day Return, last month the fare was reduced to just £2.50. This is the same level as in 2006 and should provide a welcome boost to Plymouth bound travellers who have seen fuel and toll rises hit them over the last year, even bus fares have risen over the same period.

The Off Peak fare applies after 9am when you can also use a railcard to get further discount. With a Devon and Cornwall Railcard (just £10 a year) you can get a further one third discount, so just £1.65 return, and a second adult gets the same discount.

Those under 16 can get the same Off Peak fare for just £1.25, which in most cases is less than half the price of the bus, and takes around half the time.

Town Councillor, Richard Bickford, who is secretary of the Rail Users Group, commented that 'this is a real victory for common sense, and I am pleased that First Great Western agreed with our assessment of the fares. We hope it will benefit a wide range of people and encourage others to consider the train as a real alternative'.

Saltash Mayor, Adam Killeya echoed those comments 'I was very pleased to hear this good

news, as chair of SEA (Saltash Environmental Action) I would like to add that making more use of train services from Saltash can only help our environment and put Saltash station back on the map'.

For further information on using the train for commuting or leisure contact Richard Bickford on 841119

PARKED CARS CAUSE LOSS OF BUSES

Residents in an area between New Road and Callington Road have lost their bus service since the Citybus 152 has been rerouted along Callington Road this Summer.

The loss of the service, which previously linked St Georges Road, Hillside Road and Longmeadow Road to the town centre before continuing to St Budeaux and then Derriford Hospital has been deplored by a resident writing to the Town Council.

Inclement weather, particularly last winter's ice, and cars parked along narrow residential roads caused the route change, councillors were told though they believed that lack of profitability also played a role. They agreed to investigate the possibility of a community bus service run by one of the smaller local companies.

The Waitrose free bus run by First still manages to navigate this route on an hourly basis

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CORNWALL COUNCIL & our PL12 Community

For: Observer readers
From: Councillor Bob Austin
Essa Ward, Saltash

Devonwall

We still have a threat of boundary discussions across the Tamar. There have been various attempts to make this bill flounder at the first hurdle, unsuccessfully I may add. This is one of the projects our Mayor Cllr Adam Killeya has taken up at various levels, including visiting Parliament this week. He went with an all party group of nine representatives from Cornwall for a meeting with Nick Clegg. We must keep this on the boil to protect our rich cultural heritage and strong sense of identity, which makes Cornwall a great place to live or invest in and visit. As the second largest unitary authority in England and the largest employer in Cornwall, we have a responsibility to provide strategic leadership using our power resources to influence, protect and grow Cornwall's cultural assets. So, 'well done' Adam - keep up the good fight to keep the wall of the Tamar in position and protect our heritage.

residents in the most rural areas. To help address the housing need in Cornwall a paper has been agreed, through Cabinet, to adopt an "Empty Property Strategy" to bring all vacant properties either council or privately owned back into use. These properties will have been empty for at least six months, therefore if anyone is aware of one, then please advise your local Cornwall Councillor.

Academy Schools

The Academies Act, which received royal assent on 27 July 2010 and is now an Act of Parliament, reflects the changing shape of education nationally and has implications, not only for our schools, but also for the local authority. It is proposed, as far as Cornwall is concerned, that what is most important is maintaining trust, collaboration and a family of schools to serve all children and young people regardless of their needs. An approach is being taken towards Academy schools and towards providing information and guidance for governing bodies considering applications for Academy status. Work is being undertaken to review and reform the way Local Authorities provide services for schools (including Academy schools), and, in particular, towards developing a brokerage role so that all schools can have access to a vibrant local open competitive market for school services, giving all schools within a local authority framework.

Government's Comprehensive Spending Review

This is due in October and the Council is preparing to expect the worst. One of the possibilities that the Cabinet has to face is the rationalisation of the County's property. This is a very important issue and some crucial decisions have to be made. Locally this could mean looking at various properties within Saltash that they could gain the maximum value from them e.g. CAB building, community centres, toilets and sports facilities, One Stop Shop (Library) etc.

Empty Property Strategy

Cornwall has almost 1 in 10 (9.7%) of all private dwellings classified as either long term empty or a second home. The pressures this applies to the local housing market in relation to accessibility and affordability are significant and the ramifications should not be underestimated. The effects are wide reaching, impacting even on those

agenda has serious implications for the council in terms of the way it delivers services to schools. We will no longer be able to continue as the unique provider of global services to schools and will therefore need to reform and revise our service to put it on a business footing, so that we can focus on the core statutory responsibilities of the local authority.

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FROM THE MAYOR'S PARLOUR...

This month has been a full and exciting one on four fronts: the arrival of our new clerk, Ray Lane to whom a very warm welcome; the 'Making Saltash Greener' festival which I was delighted to participate in as both Chairman and Mayor; the continuing fight to protect Cornwall Boundaries from having to share an MP with Devon; and the start of the new school year. In addition to all the usual exciting and interesting duties that go with being Mayor, I cannot claim to have been bored!

As Convenor of the Keep Cornwall Whole campaign I have been focusing a great deal of raising awareness within Parliament about what splitting an MP between Devon and Cornwall could mean for Saltash. On 15th September we took a delegation to London to meet the Deputy Prime Minister on this issue, and I left him in no doubt as to how strongly residents of Saltash feel about remaining part of Cornwall in all matters. I have also continued to lobby MPs of all parties and although I am not confident of success will fight this issue to the wire. The next step is a big public rally in Saltash on 10th October - if that has passed as you read this then hopefully you will have caught us on the news! Please take a look at our website www.keepcornwallwhole if you want to know more - this is a very important issue for Saltash.

During September Merryn and I attended several events as part of Making Saltash Greener - the festival to launch Transition within Saltash. We attended the launch - as 100 people marches across the Bridge to bring Green into Saltash; The Fore Street Late Night Opening; The Tree Plating at Tincombe; the Film Night; the Green Fashion Show and the Bring and Share Community Picnic and Art

Project on Jubilee Green. We were delighted to support this fantastic fortnight, and as both Chairman of the Event and as Mayor I would like to offer many thanks to everyone who helped organise or attended! It was great to see how many people in Saltash and the surrounding area are committed to helping Saltash meet the environmental challenges facing us - work that will continue in the coming months.

We also attended the Saltash Rugby Club registration day, the Robert Johns Leukemia Fund walk along the Tamar; The Saltash Camera Club Awards Evening, A leaving party for four long-serving staff at Marray House, the Hatt Youth Sports event at Hatt Playing Fields; the launch of the History of the County of Cornwall Volume II in Bodmin; and the Memory Walk in aid of the Alzheimer's Society at saltash.net and Churchtown Farm. These events emphasised to us once again, not that it was needed, how many fantastic organisations there are doing very important work in Saltash - whether charitable, youth, leisure or

educations. Additionally we were truly delighted to be asked to open saltash.net's fantastic 'Eat My Goal Fundraiser' at Warfelton, and I also had the pleasure of playing for the staff team in goal. Modesty almost forbids me mentioning that we won, but not quite! This event raised well over £1000 - a remarkable achievement. I was also fortunate to have the chance to mention the school when I visited the Deputy PM, and presented him with three saltash.net Frisbees - one for each of his sons.

Finally a quick note of congratulations to our town crier and his consort, Brian and Monica Whipp - Brian won the Best Dressed Crier at the big Newton Abbot competition. Well done!

ST DOMINICK REVISITED FOR GOLDEN CELEBRATION



Fifty years ago John and Monica Frantom were joined in holy matrimony in St Dominick Church. And this Summer John's best man, brother David Frantom, and bridesmaid Barbara Barrett were among the family and friends who returned to St Dominick to help celebrate the golden anniversary in the village hall.

John was the eldest of fifteen children and those surviving and fit to travel, in one case from Scotland, were there for the event. Born in Pillaton he had worked as a blacksmith and subsequently at Gilbert's Garage in Hatt.

Monica was a 'St Dominick Maid' and a familiar and welcoming fact at the 'Who'd Have Thought It' Inn where she served many as a waitress.

Their three children and four grandchildren were among family members

present at the party, attended also by the Mayor of Saltash Cllr Adam Killeya. Of their three children Nicola, Adrian and Alison, the youngest Alison is well known to many, and a special friend of the Observer, being a 'mainstay' of 'The Hearing Room' where she sits in reception. We send our belated congratulations to John and Monica and wish the family well for the future.

NO SEX SHOPS, WE'RE SALTASH

Saltash Fore Street and Lower Fore Street should be specific areas where no sex establishments may be licensed.

This was the agreed policy of Saltash Town Council who have been invited by Cornwall Council to propose areas of the Town where sex shops, sex cinemas and entertainment venues should not be sited. The County has the power to licence such premises and town councils may seek to limit the areas in which they may be licensed but cannot put a whole town "off limits."

Other areas suggested as "no go" as far as sex establishments are concerned included the vicinity of schools and youth organisations, churches and the Waterside.

TAMAR TAG TOP-UP RISE

The minimum level of top-up payment on a Tamar Bridge tag has been increased to £15, a town council committee was told.

One local resident was advised by the Tamar Bridge and Torpoint Ferry Authority that he was required to top up to £30.00, the Town Council's Industry, Commerce, Transport and Tourism Committee was informed. A 'letter to the editor' in your August 'Saltash Observer' confirmed that the same information had been given out.

The Committee considered that this might be because this person had two vehicles and a different account was required for each, or alternatively an error had been made.

SPEED BUMPS CAUSE CASUALTIES

An entire local family had to travel by ambulance for treatment at Derriford hospital following an incident with a cyclist in Fore Street.

The accident took place when a van stopped by the speed hump outside Superdrug and the driver indicated that he had done so to allow a family to cross the road.

As they did so they were struck by a cyclist overtaking the van, a family member told the Town Council's Industry, Commerce, Transport and Tourism Committee. He described how the van driver had picked his eldest granddaughter off the road onto the pavement before an ambulance took the full family to hospital, all suffering injuries or shock.

The dangers of crossing Fore Street on these speed humps was highlighted, with many drivers treating them as safe pedestrian crossing and stopping to allow access, while other road users do not.

While there are two pedestrian controlled pelican crossings in the street many pedestrians, the Town Council Committee members noted, treat the humps as unofficial crossings and step out regardless of traffic. The fact that many drivers encourage this while some do not enhances the danger. Councillors were concerned to hear that the police had apparently shown no interest in this incident despite the injuries caused.

It was agreed that the incident should be referred back to the police and that the general situation regarding pedestrian use of speed humps should be raised with Cornwall Council's Road Safety Department.

Deputy Mayor Colin Oakes also expressed concern regarding motorised mobility scooters allowed to travel on pavements, including shopping areas such as Fore Street at speeds which can be up to 8 m.p.h. endangering children and the elderly among other pavement users.

GUILDHALL STAFF THANKED

As the newly appointed Town Clerk prepared to take up his office, Mayor Adam Killeya publicly thanked all of the Guildhall staff for rallying around during the difficulties of the interregnum since the departure of former Town Clerk Mrs Marilyn Small.

He especially thanked the acting Town Clerk, Debbie Ashton who had come from Tavistock to help out initially for one day a week which had been extended to full time. She was presented with a bouquet and a print of Saltash as thanks for services rendered during this time.

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FESTIVAL FUN WITH GREEN PICNIC AND FREE BOOT SALE

From free boot sales to community picnics there was plenty of outdoor activity for all to celebrate the 'Making Saltash Greener' Festival.

Saltash shillings changed hands fast and furiously in Alexandra Square on a Sunday afternoon as one man's trash proved to be another's treasure. Children in particular were anxious to get the best deal, swapping their Saltash Shillings for bargains.

Following two weeks of day and evening events the Festival culminated in a community picnic on Brunel Green. The sun shone, the marquee kept off some of the stiff breeze that lifted the banner as those of all ages shared a feast and mixed together. Youngsters, among others joined the Mayor and Mayoress in extending their skills in an Art Workshop based on recycled materials.

By way of conclusion Saltash Environmental Action joined with Saltash Churches Together in a Celebration of Creation held at Churchtown Farm. As the harvest hymns rang out the congregation could gaze across the Tamar and Lynher to the hills beyond, wonder at the beauties of this work and renew their efforts to preserve it.

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Christmas Bookings Now Being Taken at The Brunel Inn

Recently re-opened and under new ownership a popular Saltash hostelry is celebrating with a new menu and a lively programme of live entertainment.

David and Karen are delighted to be the new hosts at the two centuries old 'Brunel Inn' in the heart of Saltash and are pleased to welcome customers old and new.

Since taking over they have re-designed the menu and appointed a new head chef with the aim of attracting all of those who enjoy a good selection of traditional home cooked British fare at honest prices. Already local shoppers and business people are coming to appreciate the range of dishes which include the especially popular homemade steak and kidney pie, hunter's chicken and minted lamb shank. Many items on the menu can be enjoyed as part of a 'two meals for £12' special promotion.

Those in search of a light snack can choose from a range of fresh baguettes

and paninis while the seriously hungry can select a choice steak cooked to order. With colder days approaching the homemade soup starters are likely to prove popular, as are the garlic mushrooms and other delights. It is also always worth checking out the specials board for both main courses and scrumptious deserts. Children are welcome in the dining section or the sun patio and have their own special menu.

Sunday carveries served from midday until four are already proving popular and advance booking is strongly recommended.

On all other days meals are served between midday and two p.m. and then five to eight in the evening.

Meals can be accompanied by a wide



range of alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks which can also be enjoyed by those just wishing to quench their thirst in this historic town-centre 'local.'

Hand-drawn Marstons Pedigree vies with Courage Best as favourite for the traditional beer drinkers, though these will be changed to offer a wide choice to real-ale lovers.

A wide choice of lagers and ciders, as well as spirits is also always available. An extensive wine list complements each meal, served by the bottle, while other wines are available by the glass.

The Brunel boasts and extensive bar area together with separate dining space and a sun-trap south facing patio, somewhere to suit every taste.

Since their arrival David and Karen have been keen to enhance the 'Brunel's' reputation as a local music venue to suit all tastes. With this in mind the last Sunday of each month is to be jazz night. This is in addition to a packed programme of events each Friday and Saturday evening bringing the very best of local bands to Saltash. Among local favourites booked to appear in October are 'Rusty Angel' on 16th and 'Joker' on 30th of the month, for other live entertainment check the boards outside.

Those who enjoy bar games have an excellent pool table and darts board, with a darts team entered in the local league.

It is none too early now to be thinking of Christmas plans and booking ahead

to ensure not having to accept second best. David has already, together with his newly appointed head-chef, put together a tempting Christmas menu and looks forward to welcoming groups and couples from the end of November to sample the Brunel's special seasonal fare. This is the ideal venue to bring a group of family, friends or work colleagues to share in the seasonal spirit. David will be pleased to discuss, by telephone or by personal visit, individual requirements to ensure the festive event is a memorable occasion. - lunchtime or evening - and for those who cannot tear themselves away the 'Brunel' offers excellently furnished en suite rooms in the heart of down town Saltash.

VOICE OF YOUTH PANEL PROPOSED

A forum of young people feeding their concerns and views directly to the Town Council is to be formed.

This follows a suggestion made when a team of Community School students visited the Mayor in the Guildhall last term.

Young panel members will be put forward by the school councils of each of the Town's junior schools, the community school and Saltash College. It is proposed that they should meet once a month for an hour and for half of this time it should be led by the young people. While the Mayor will initially chair the meeting it would be hoped that he would soon hand over to the young people.

FILMS AND FASHION SHOW

Evening events through the Festival fortnight of Make Saltash Greener provided a wide variety of entertainment and interest.

A late night shopping evening in Fore Street was enlivened by live music from a singer, Judy Whitlock, the St Germans based eco-band Wurlitza and even an exotic belly dancer. This was followed by a 'Green Quiz' where participants were tested on green questions such as the power saved by turning equipment off 'standby' and Postman Pat's home village (Greendale).

A particular highlight of the festival was the Recycled Fashion Show. Local models, male and female strutted their stuff on the catwalk to show off the variety of work wear, casual wear, evening wear and wedding costumes to be found in charity shops. Writer and broadcaster Tracey Smith compared with skill enhancing the fun and Peter Gunn provided the music.

An evening of eco-films in the Guildhall ranged from cartoon documentaries explaining economic theory to shorts of a talking trash bin and a piano-playing staircase. Two locally made films were featured 'Rusty v Unrusty' being the creation of 15 year old George Salisbury who was presented with a commemorative clipboard by the Mayor as winner of the Saltash Environmental Action youth production competition.

The Festival was to celebrate Saltash's new found status as a Transition Town moving towards a greener future. It was therefore, of especial interest to hear the 'Transition Tales' of Steph

WAITROSE WELCOME REQUESTS FOR COMMUNITY FUNDING



Ever active in the community of which they are a part, Waitrose in Saltash have already donated many thousands of pounds to local causes selected by their customers.

Bradley who stopped off in Saltash on the last leg of her walk from Totnes all round the transition towns of Britain. She carried a present from one town to the next and having presented Saltash with a zebra, symbolising that every being is different, she was given some home grown pink fir apple potatoes to take onwards. The festival fortnight demonstrated to all of the many who attended the importance of towns such as Saltash standing up in support of the planet which we have inherited and hope to pass on to our children.

Now they are inviting other local groups to put themselves forward for Waitrose 'community matters' funding.

Every month Waitrose customers are invited to select how community funding should be divided between that month's three good causes.

That which receives the most votes as the most deserving gets the highest sum, but with useful donations going to all three.

Those who have benefited over the past Summer include sports clubs such as Hatt Youth Sports Association, schools and pre-schools such as St Nicholas and St Faith pre-school, and other causes varying from Saltash Duke of Edinburgh Award Group to St Germans Girl Guides, Friends of St Dominick Church and St Annes Residential Home Mini-bus Fund.

Any similar group which has not been included before, or not for over a year, is invited to contact Sophie on 01752 849067 or write to Waitrose at Tamar View Industrial Estate, Saltash PL12 6LD.

This is just a part of the role played by Waitrose in supporting the local community. The company was prominent in the summer's Saltfest Music Festival where they supplied the food.

They were even more active in the Saltash Regatta when, in addition to financial support, Waitrose entered two teams for the fun 'Race to England' event including the contest's only all girl team.

They also ran their Regatta 'Guess the Price of the Loaded Shopping Trolley' contest won, to the surprise of some, by a local male student John Caley who would no doubt find his cash prize useful as he set off to university.

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

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NEW TOWN COUNCIL COMMITTEES

The care of Town Council staff and ensuring that they are able to give their best service to the public must be one of a Town Council's priorities, Mayor Cllr. Adam Killea told the Town Council.

He was concerned that this had in the past not been prioritised as it should be and he proposed the formation of a special staff committee. It was agreed that such a committee be formed of the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and four other Councillors.

The Town's Burial Board Committee should also be expanded to take into account that Saltash will have a council, as well as a parochial, cemetery, it was agreed. Instead of a board chaired by the team rector there will now be a Burial Board Committee with joint chairs being the rector and a councillor and with additional council members.

SALTASH U3A

Saltash U3A is holding a special day of talks and music entitled Our Cornish Heritage at the China Fleet Country Club in Saltash on Monday, October 18th 2010. The day-long programme, which is sponsored by Saltash Town Council Community Chest, Waitrose Community Matters, and the China Fleet Country Club, includes refreshments and a buffet lunch to give everyone time to relax and socialise.

Our three speakers are Dr Bernard Deacon from the Institute of Cornish Studies at Penryn, maritime historian Dr Helen Doe, and poet and author James Crowden. The talks will provide an overview of Cornish history from a 'people' perspective, some insight into our maritime heritage 'beyond the fishermen and the

smugglers', and a look at our mining heritage through tales of the lives of miners. The singer-musician duo Bedlam Bess (Sue White and Kate Thomson) will round out the day with songs from our seafaring and mining past.

Our Cornish Heritage is the Saltash U3A branch's first attempt at a 'study day'. It has been well advertised to other regional U3As, local organisations, in local shops and on notice boards. Members from Tavy, Callington and Plymouth U3As have signed up, as well as members of Saltash U3A and St Stephens WI, and other retired and semi-retired people from around the region. Tickets were sold out by August Bank Holiday!

U3A (University of the Third Age) is an organisation, linked to similar organisations around the world, that provides the older generation with opportunities to share skills, interests and leisure. There are 761 U3A branches in the U.K. run entirely by volunteers. The Saltash branch was founded in September 2006 as a result of the enthusiasm of local people who had had experience of U3A Branches elsewhere. It has grown steadily ever since. Lecturers, speaking on a wide variety of topics, are invited to speak at most of our monthly branch meetings where attendance is regularly 50 to 60 members. Membership is now well over a hundred and there are currently 16 independent interest groups including Art, Astronomy, Gardening, Music of Western Europe, T'ai Chi, Theatre/Culture, Walking as well as frequent Discovery trips to local places of interest. To find out more, visit our website:

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.....

To all residents of Saltash, following a recent article in the Observer, Sept 2010 Issue 218.

Billed call for evidence Yellow Tor Lane.

I feel it only fair to explain the full reason for closing off of yellow Tor Lane and give you the full facts, which Saltash Council obviously do not wish you to know.

My Mother in Law and her brother own the lane, as proved to the Council by way of deeds, also officially in writing from Cornwall County Council a definitive map showing and stating that, Yellow Tor Lane is private property and definitely not a public right of way.

The lane was used for the last few years since approximately 2006 with consent from the owners, however recent incidents including, vandalism, reckless riding by speeding cyclists and intimidation of family dog by school children. The family have felt that the safest way to stop this was by closing off the lane, this was done for no other reason than those stated and the family apologise for

any inconvenience caused.

However, they would like it mentioned that is is a mud track maintained at a cost to themselves and is merely a short cut from Spire Hill Park to Fairmead Road, the extra 40 paces around is a safer, drier alternative.

So to all residents who have an interest in this issue, please put safety before bureaucracy, would you want to be held responsible for a severe accident on your property? Members of the family also have to take the longer 40 paces route, but felt this justifiable in the interest of safety.

Finally, The Council had no interest in this lane, until a certain councillor was told he could no longer Ramble through the lane. So what do you think is more important, your children's safety or a Councillors right to ramble through a mud track.

I hope this sheds a bit more light than the Council were willing to give.

Daniel Lawson
for the family.
Yellow Tor Bungalow

Dear Editor

I am writing to you as I am very concerned that the Town Council are seeking to make the old track once known as Yellow Tor Lane a Right of Way especially as my house wall forms part of the boundary.

This is a track that was originally provided for a farmer for the movement of cows from farm to fields when Yellow Tor Cottage and Villa were built. It certainly was't a footpath as it went nowhere in particular.

When I first moved to my house 10 years ago the track was hardly used at all. This I know because my kitchen window looks directly on to the track. It is only since another way through from Spire Hill Park was blocked that it has been used by more and more children. As a result my walls have had graffiti sprayed on them, a gutter was pulled down, a window was broken in and I have had to put one way glass into my kitchen window to stop children from looking in. Even more worrying is the fact that my neighbours' Staffordshire terrier was tormented by children with sticks.

Apart from the personal concerns of my neighbour and myself there is also the major issue of safety. When Yellow Tor Bungalow was built the County Council insisted that the lane be used as their drive. They have 3 cars and when the large family house adjoining mine is sold there could be 6 cars regularly using the track and yet it is only just wide enough for a car, certainly not for a walker or cyclist as well. There seems to be an accident waiting to happen.

My last point is that the track is totally redundant as a footpath. Yellow Tor Road is only 50 metres up the road and it is a safe and well lit access to the estate. Why the Town Council has taken it upon it's self to make this mere 25 metres a Right of Way I can't understand and when I went to the Town Council meeting regarding the lane I was refused the right to speak. On leaving I said "Do you not care about the danger from cars?" Councillor Clements said "No" I will be putting my objections to the County Council and I hope that as it was they who insisted that the track should be used as a drive to 2 houses that they will see the sense in refusing the Town Council's ill-considered plan.

Janet Loftus.
Yellow Tor Lane

GREEN FESTIVAL TO BEAR FRUIT

A community orchard was planted out as part of the Making Saltash Greener Transition Festival.

The Mayor and Mayoress Adam and Merryn Killea, were among those planting a variety of cooking and eating apple trees on a warm south facing slope at Tincombe. It is hoped to add to them and from next Autumn onwards local residents will be able to help themselves to the fruit.

The planting was a community event developing into a picnic and an impromptu singing session in the warmth of a September Saturday afternoon.

HATT FUN DAY IS GREAT SUCCESS!



The community of Hatt & Botus Fleming enjoyed a great afternoon of fun, food & discussion on Sunday 19th September.

The event was organised by local people as part of a fund raising attempt to improve facilities on Hatt playing fields. People of all ages came along to enjoy the BBQ, train ride, fire engine, stalls, and games. There was also an opportunity to give ideas &

opinions on how the fields could be improved for community use. Two play park companies brought displays which were of great interest to local people. The fund raising attempt will continue - hopefully with even more support.

If you would like to be involved with this community project or feel that you can help in any way, please contact louiseconium@orange.net or arnoldfamilyfp@talktalk.net or telephone Faye on 0797 932 6467

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GREEN ARMY MARCHES INTO TRANSITION TOWN

A Green Army with a difference marched across the Tamar Bridge lead by a jazz band and flourishing banners. Hoops of support from passing cars merged with the music of the Gittisham Jazz Band, down from East Devon to support

Saltash's Green Transition Town Festival. Adults and children, numbering around a hundred, almost all wore green to show their support for the Festival's environmental message.

As they filed off the bridge into Lower Fore Street the Mayor Cllr. Adam Killeya and

Mayoress Merryn Killeya were outside the Guildhall ready to invite the transition town movement into Saltash. A green ribbon was cut before the crowd moved up to Fore Street where an official cake (made of local ingredients) was cut and shared around and a bouquet of local grown herbs was handed to the Mayoress.

"It is, I believe the first such event in Cornwall if not the United Kingdom," the Mayor told those present. "It is important for Saltash to become a transition town. Environmental problem solving starts at the bottom in communities such as Saltash." Transition Towns are communities actively preparing for a different way of life as gas, oil and other natural resources become more scarce. Events such as 'Making Saltash Greener' festival are aimed to show that positive local solutions to environmental problems can also help build happier and more self reliant communities.

Following the official opening of the two week festival Fore Street was enlivened by the music of the jazz band and of a singer higher up the street. There was also a pedal parade of cyclists of all ages up to Victoria Gardens and back.

This event heralded a packed programme of green events planned for the following fortnight.

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GOING IT GREENER

Every journey that we take we can do so in a more environmentally friendly manner and not only help save the planet but save ourselves cash.

This was the message of a Transport Fair as part of the 'Make Saltash Greener' festival fortnight.

Increased rail services stopping at Saltash, largely through local pressure group S.R.V.G.'S intervention, open up a wide travel range for commuters, shoppers, and leisure travellers. Saltash is now also served by three bus companies covering almost the whole town. Presentations were given on public transport opportunities for green minded Saltash residents.

Advice was also given to those who save all fuel costs by mounting two wheels and cycling to work or simply for fitness and pleasure. And the pleasure of walking were promoted, through the short and easy Walk and Talk local programme and the more ambitious walks through our multiplicity of footpaths organised by local ramblers.

Even the ardent motorist can save at least 8% and possibly up to 20% or more of fuel costs and environmental damage by driving in a more fuel efficient manner, as a local driving instructor advised, offering motorists lesson sin how to do so.

KEEP YOUR GARDEN HEDGES TRIMMED

The Town Council is still receiving complaints from residents regarding overgrown shrubs and hedges encroaching onto Public walkways and pavements. Every house holder has that duty of care to prevent overgrowth of their hedges onto pavements etc, therefore could we ask you all to be aware of any overgrowing hedges that may restrict pedestrians and to keep walkways clear. Please Get Those Green Fingers Going And Keep Your Hedges Trimmed!! Grateful thanks from the Town Council on behalf of all the community.

Responsible Persons Required

If you are a responsible person and you enjoy walking for health or for pleasure or need a little push to go for that all important walk, why not deliver a few papers on route. I need an active person/persons in the **Carkeel and Pilmere areas.** If you are interested please call Mary Crawford on 07971 484872 or 01579 345699

PLEASE TALK FOR THE TREES

Anyone who enjoys the local environment and a stroll around the Town is invited to enrol as a voluntary tree warden.

Saltash has just one tree warden, and Flok de Rijke is eager to recruit an assistant, or assistants. No specialist knowledge of trees is required, just a general interest, and a willingness to learn more. Some training is available.

The tree wardens, who can be retired, not working, or in employment but wanting an encouragement to get out and about or an added interest to walking the dog, can give the job just as much time as they have available.

While out walking they are asked to examine the trees that they pass and look out for any sign of trouble including disease, damage or safety issues. There should be reported back to Cornwall Council.

Anyone interested in learning more about this pleasurable and worthwhile voluntary activity is asked to contact Ms. de Rijke on 01752 847681

Inner Wheel Club of Saltash

Our midsummer get-together on August 17th was held at our Presidents summer home at Whitsand Bay. The weather was good and as always wonderful food was supplied by club members. A very happy evening was enjoyed by all.

Our September speaker was Saltash Rotarian, Brian Stoyel, Past President of R.I.B.I. who spoke on THE ROTARY FOUNDATION, whose motto is "TO DO GOOD IN THE WORLD". It is funded by Rotary Clubs, Rotarians, individuals and other major donors. The beauty of this charity is that the money is closely monitored and Rotarians decide how the money is spent.

POLIO PLUS is one of their major projects. Started in 1978 when \$100,000 was spent and thousands of children were immunised in the Philippines. In 1994 the Western Hemisphere was declared Polio free, but there are four countries where Polio is still endemic. It takes three years with no reported cases for a country to be declared immune.

The vote of thanks was given by Evelyn Dwelly. We all felt we learned a lot.

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'TAMAR' 'TAVY' 'PLYM' & 'DARTMOOR'

Are Amongst The New Designs Created Especially for ISAMBARDS Clientèle

Having dedicated the past two years to establishing Isambards with a solid local reputation for craftsmanship and quality, proprietor Rob Oak is delighted to have a fresh and almost limitless variety of designs to display from his Fore Street premises.

In an exciting new development for the well established business Isambards have sourced a new manufacturer of high quality kitchen and other furnishing which can be custom made to the individual requirements of the discerning house owner.

Having their own range, specially made to their own exacting standards and to their own design, enables Isambards to offer an even better service specifically designed to suit each property and the tastes of the property owner. This range of furnishings, not available through the standard kitchen supplier, means that a fitted kitchen can be tailor made to fit all of those difficult corners.

It also means that the bespoke design can be extended to include such extras as wine and plate racks, glass fronted units and drawers, Tambour units, island units with double-sided glass doors – the choice is almost endless.

For the fitted kitchen of one's dreams the first stage is to call into Isambard's showroom prominently placed in the heart of Fore Street. Here one can view and discuss with an expert the new selection of around ninety ranges of styles, designs and colours to include the 'Tamar' 'Tavy' 'Plym' and 'Dartmoor' designs locally created for Isambard's clientèle. With so

many options available it is useful to discuss them for expert opinion from head designer John.

Following a choice of the general style and colour scheme an appointment is made for a home visit, entirely free and without obligation. There a member of the design team will measure up before bringing together his skills and training with the latest in design technology.

The result will be an individualised plan designed to utilise space to best advantage and create the perfect kitchen incorporating the style and colour scheme the customer has chosen.

This will be displayed on a wide plasma screen in the showroom while the customer relaxes in the coffee lounge area and makes any comments or suggestions for easily implemented alterations.

Once the final design has been approved all work is professionally surveyed and fully project managed as the select hand picked team of professional craftsmen move in. Isambards use their experience to guarantee the best in selecting the team of tilers, fitters, builders, electricians, plumbers and plasterers used to working as a team to create the perfect finish.



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ISAMBARDS CONTRIBUTION TO MAKING SALTASH GREENER



While they have between them many years experience of designing and fitting new kitchens in established homes, the Isambard team are equally qualified and experienced in bringing new life to serviceable but unstylish kitchens.

For those who are relatively happy with their existing kitchen designs but would like a refurbishment Rob John and his team are well experienced in bringing the room up to perfection with the help of some minor works from Isambards.

Excellent designs and styles are available for refreshing and upgrading. A home visit will result in suggestions for a possible door or work top changes with perhaps the supply and fitting of new appliances and accessories.

Awkward gaps can be filled and a kitchen given new life without throwing away all of what is there – in keeping with Isambards' contribution to making Saltash Greener.

Bathrooms too may be given new life with the aid of new fittings, including those from quality tried and tested manufacturers Twyford or Grohe. Again the Isambards team will be delighted to discuss, advise, and arrange a home visit.



Designer Bathrooms - Fast Becoming an Essential Feature of the Ideal Home

Designer bathrooms are fast becoming an increasingly essential feature of the ideal home. The good news is that such a bathroom can be locally sourced and fully fitted by an expert team of professional craftsmen all at a realistic price.

Isambard's are pleased and proud to be able to offer, from the same manufacturer, a similar wide selection of bathroom furnishings and fittings as is available for their dream kitchens. A visit to their Fore Street Showrooms can open up an astounding choice of styles and colour schemes to brighten and add luxury to any bathroom of whatever size. To discover how easily, and at how modest a price, one can transform this often neglected room into being a delight to the eye, visit Isambards and talk to head designer John or one of the experienced staff who will be delighted to put forward suggestions and arrange a 'no obligation' home visit.

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A £250 DONATION



Over the last few months 30 members of the Chorus have been busy rehearsing for the competition where they will compete against 27 other Choruses from the U.K.

The Brunel Ladies Harmony Chorus is part of the Ladies Association of British Barbershop Singers and was formed in 1991.

In addition to receiving the most welcome donation from the Foundation – the ladies were also showing off their brand new sparkly outfits – they are hoping that the outfits as well as their fine voices will impress the judges.

Sue Hooper (Chairman of the Trust) said today: “The Trust was delighted to respond to the request from the Ladies Chorus – and wish them well for the competition – their presence at the U.K. competition will certainly put them and Saltash on the map.”

Following the presentation the Ladies gave the Trustees a pleasant surprise by singing a few harmonies for them.

The Sue Hooper Charitable Foundation was formed in 2000 in aid and support of the promotion of music, drama and the performing arts – and supports applications from Saltash and Cornwall –

www.suehcf.org.uk

Brunel Ladies Harmony Chorus are singing the praises of the Sue Hooper Charitable Foundation –after receiving a donation of £250 towards their visit to Llandudno, North Wales to compete in the annual U.K. Championships.

The Chorus led by Delyth Knight has a membership of 38 ladies.

RESCUING THE DOGS OF WAR

The battle hardened Royal Marine Commandos who daily dice with suicide bombers while seeking to contain the Taliban in Helmand would not be expected to include in their mission statement the saving of Afghanistan’s stray dogs.

BEEFING UP THE POUND

An ‘art cow’ or similar beast has been suggested for installation at Trematon Pound.

The former cattle pound, where straying animals were traditionally ‘impounded’ was restored several years ago by Saltash Old Cornwall Society and the Town Council. The gate and wall have recently been repaired.

The pound contains a picnic table and information board. The Council’s Civic Amenities Committee has suggested that it might be made more interesting and that there was possibly some monies left from the Lottery funding granted for the renovation.

The artificial cows of Milton Keynes are a familiar features for passing rail passengers and investigations will be carried out as to appropriate ‘art cows’ to substitute for the pound’s original inhabitants.

In actual fact, while far from family and friends in a land where human contact is discouraged lest any adult or child prove to be a suicide bomber, many of the troops have lavished their compassion on the canine population. How one man’s rescue of a mutilated dog bred for fighting has led to the establishment of a registered charity was outlined and illustrated to a fascinated audience in the café above ‘The Bookshelf.’

Writer Pen Farthing was promoting his second book ‘No Place Like Home’, which tells the tales of several dogs rescued from the rubbish tips of Helmand and in some cases given a happy home in Europe or America. One dog, Patch was present and eager to meet his Saltash fans. The charity also seeks to educate a population where a dog is looked on as a health hazard, and to encourage neutering. Many of those present were pleased to purchase an autographed copy of the book and so contribute to Nowzad Dogs who can be contacted on www.nowzaddogs.co.uk or through PO Box 3495 Corsham SN13.

WARNING ABOUT A COUNCIL TAX REFUND SCAM

Residents are being warned of a scam in which an attempt is made to trick them into revealing bank account details.

Several people have contacted Cornwall Council reporting telephone calls from someone stating they are due a council tax refund of several hundred pounds. The caller claims that too much council tax was paid, that the customer is eligible for a refund, and asks for bank account details over the phone so that the refund can be paid.

Mark Read, Cornwall Council’s Head of Revenue and Benefits said: “Several people have reported telephone calls so we are asking people to be careful and not enter into any discussions with these people. I can assure residents these people are not operating on our behalf. We would never contact customers and ask for those kinds of details over the telephone. If a refund is due and you have paid your council tax by Direct Debit, we will use the bank details already held to carry out the refund, so we do not need to ask for them again. If you have paid by cash or cheque, the council will issue a cheque for any refund due.”

Cornwall Council would never proactively ring you for your bank details. If you are asked for your bank details over the phone, please say you will call them back and telephone the council direct on 0300 1234 121.

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