

SALTASH AND DISTRICT OBSERVER

Your only truly "local" newspaper ...

October 2014 - Issue 267

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and our PL12 community
For Observer readers
From Councillor Joe Ellison

NOT JUST SCOTTISH DEVOLUTION – WHAT ABOUT CORNWALL ?

Devolution is the buzzword of the last fortnight, following the clear, but close, NO vote in Scotland. Whatever happens in future, it is clear that UK political leaders are united in offering yet further powers to the Scottish Assembly, including tax raising powers.

However, the vote has also drawn public attention to the favourable deal already enjoyed by Scotland, including a significantly higher per capita support grant, free prescriptions and free university education. A whole can of worms has been opened, and other UK regions are now asking questions about devolution of further powers from Whitehall. In the case of Cornwall, Leader John Pollard has unveiled a new initiative to demand further local powers, based on Cornwall Council becoming a de facto Regional Assembly. This has long been the objective of Cornwall's own political party, Mebyon Kernow, and the Liberal Democrats have recently publicly jumped on the bandwagon too. Of course the Cornwall case is strengthened by the recent EU recognition of the Cornish as a recognised National Minority, and the coherence of the peninsula, both geographically with distinct boundaries and as the largest area with Unitary status. So watch this space for developments.....

DEVOLUTION AND SWINGING BUDGET CUTS.

Meanwhile, your Cornwall councillors are wrestling with officer recommendations for further cuts in front line services for the next four years. The government is reducing the regional support grant by nearly £90 million, and still perpetuates the injustice whereby rural counties get 30% less in support than urban areas such as Merseyside and Manchester. Rural services also cost far more

to deliver – think of the distances between calls for waste collection or care worker calls for instance. Cornwall and other rural counties are fighting hard for Rural Fair Shares without any sign of government concessions.

Anyway, the upshot is that Cornwall Council must make cuts of £196 million in order to present a legal balanced budget. Nor can Cornwall council tax be increased by more than 2% without being forced to hold an expensive referendum.

The headline front line cuts have already been publicised – closure of two respite centres, withdrawal of all support for the Visit Cornwall tourist promotion agency, restricted hours for the Library service, staff cuts of up to 30% etc etc. Essentially Cornwall Council will concentrate spending on its expensive statutory obligations such as Education, essential rather than planned Highways maintenance, and the ever-growing cost of Adult Social Care.

Any services that we may have previously taken for granted, but are NOT statutory, are no longer guaranteed. This may include grass cutting and maintenance of Open Spaces, weed spraying, grants to voluntary bodies, provision of Leisure services, and, of course, public toilets.

This is where the next level of devolution comes in – despite local concerns about so-called double taxation, Cornwall would dearly love to devolve responsibility for these "optional" services to local town and parish councils. At present local councils can raise funding through the annual precept, and are not subject to the 2% cap referred to above.

Cornwall's budget proposals are open to public participation at over 25 public meetings currently being held throughout Cornwall. I would urge anyone who feels strongly to attend the Saltash meeting and have their say – it will take place at the Guildhall on Wednesday 22nd October at 14.30.

The 196 pages of the Draft Budget proposals are on view at the Library/One Stop Shop. Cornwall Council will debate the proposals and the results of the public meetings on November 25th, before setting the actual budget in February.

EU STRUCTURAL FUNDING FOR CORNWALL.

Because average incomes in Cornwall fall below 75% of the EU average, Cornwall has substantial EU grants for the third four-year period. In the past, very few projects in South East Cornwall have benefited from previous programmes.

This time, there is good news and bad news. First, over £20 million will be available for Community Led Local Developments (CLLD), allocated evenly on a district basis (our Area D extends as far as St Austell). Also Cornwall can decide on funding distribution, not central government as formerly. Also I have one of the three available places on the Local Action Group. Eligible projects will be able to access funding from 2015, when the systems will be in place.

The bad news is that according to the DEFRA classification of rural hubs, Saltash is excluded from any share of the £20+ million allocated for agricultural support

grants.

As you will have gathered, now is a grim time to be a Cornwall Councillor – none of us stood for Council to be instrumental in cutting vital services to our community, and a great deal of hard work and many tough choices lie ahead as the dark evenings close in. But looking on the bright side, what a phenomenal summer we have enjoyed, and it's lasting in to October.

My caravan went into winter storage down West last Sunday, but I'm beginning to regret it!
*County Councillor Joe Ellison
Saltash North*

Pavement Parkers Could be Towed Away

Parking on pavements is endangering pedestrians, in particular mothers and children in pushchairs and prams, the Town Council and Police were told. Essa Road in particular has this problem, a local resident told PCSO Mary Wells as she gave her Police Report to the Council.

Essa Road is busy and with no dropped curves on a long section of the road those in wheelchairs or pushing young children cannot safely cross and are forced to walk in the road facing traffic.

Police are aware of this, he was told. A letter warning against this illegal parking is being distributed to local houses as well as being placed on offending vehicles. If these are ignored 'the Police will have to take this more seriously than they do now', PCSO Wells confirmed. Police officers would be brought in, since civil enforcement officers have no powers in cases of obstruction. In extreme cases offending vehicles could be towed away.

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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.

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Liskeard Rd, Saltash Cornwall

The Essa Files

As many of you are hopefully aware Cornwall Council recently started its consultation over proposed budget cuts – the sad reality is that they need to cut over £100 million off of their budget over four years and many of these cuts will be painful, likely including youth services, fire and rescue, support to community groups, social care and much else besides. I would urge you to look at the budget consultation section of Cornwall Council's website and to make your views known, either by sending something in or by attending one of the local meetings. Saltash Town Council has already sent in a lengthy initial response of questions and comments.

In addition the Town Council is now considering how this impacts on what we do – Cornwall Council is certainly going to ask us to take on more services and buildings, but without providing any money to do so. This will inevitably include public toilets and additional weeding, but potentially also some green spaces, non-profit making car parks, and possibly even libraries.

The choices facing the Town Council are basically 1. To take on all available services and negotiate for more, on the basis that they will be run better under more local control – this is the most radical and expensive option and would certainly mean a rise in council tax.

2. To take on only those services that Cornwall will not provide and are of net benefit to the town – this is a more piecemeal but also cheaper approach.

3. To refuse to take on any services on the grounds that STC's portion of council tax makes up less than 4% of the total, and these services should be provided by Cornwall.

My own view is that option 3, tempting though it may be sometimes to say

'not my problem mate', is not sustainable or responsible. I am genuinely undecided between options 1 and 2 – some town councils have become very successful 'service providers' albeit at the cost of increased council tax, and there is certainly a temptation in more local service control. Equally though there is a question as to whether Saltash TC is big enough to run that many services.

STC is discussing these options briefly in October with a view to making a final decision at the start of November – this decision could have a significant impact on the future of the town council and town.

By Adam Killeya

Concerns Over Carwash Safety

A roof over a car wash was criticised as being allegedly a danger to the public when an application for its retention was put to Saltash Town Council.

A resident living adjacent to the car wash in Brunel Road Carkeel complained that on a windy day a previous roof blew off and into her garden. The replacement roof was higher and, she considered, shoddily constructed. She had confirmed that there had never been any planning permission given for any roof during the years that the business was there.

Nobody was present to speak in support of the application.

Deputy Mayor Councillor Bill Phillips confirmed that he had visited and did not consider the existing roof to be safe.

After discussion it was agreed to recommend a building control investigation due to legitimate concerns on the construction and Health and Safety issues. The planning application was deferred until after this had taken place.

Young Cornish Climbing Star Aims High

Five year old Seren Wills has taken the climbing scene by storm when she recently competed in The Barn Climbing Centre summer series, based in Milton Abbot, Devon. The youngster who was only four years old at the start of the three round series managed to claim 4th place in the under 12's competition, competing again boys and girls more than double her age. Many of her fellow competitors are members of the South West region squad, and had considerable high and strength advantages.

The three month summer competition took place in June, July and August, with climbers undertaking various bouldering challenges, picking up points

for the number of route that they completed. Bouldering is similar to climbing, but is carried out without harnesses and ropes, with protective crash mats to help absorb any falls.

Seren who lives in East Cornwall has been climbing since she was two years old, and regularly uses indoor climbing venues across Cornwall and Devon at weekends. She has also experienced outdoor bouldering at The Cheese Ring, on the Lizard and in The Peak District. Seren also has a bouldering wall at her home in the garage, which she practices and plays on during the week.

Alice Martin, owner of The Barn Climbing Centre said "Seren is amazing. To be in the top four climbers in the under 12's competition is astonishing. She is definitely a future star in the making".

Seren added "I love to climb. Everyone is always so friendly and we have such a great time playing on the boulders and climbing the walls. I would like to be the best climber in the country one day, and become an explorer".

For further information please contact:
Julian Wills – 01752 849043 – wisecoaching@yahoo.co.uk – 07928888492

Saltash Community Cinema Prepare for First Showing

The first showing of the Love Saltash Community Cinema will be at 2.30pm on Saturday the 25th October 2014 with a spooky family friendly film and will be held in the Guildhall on Lower Fore Street.

Tickets are on sale now from the Truly Scrumptious Sweet Shop, advance bookings are advisable to avoid disappointment.

Adults £2 Children £1 each

Popcorn, Candy Floss, Snacks & Refreshments will be on sale.

Follow the cinema on Facebook: Saltash Cinema

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A local legend has been artistically portrayed in the heart of old Saltash in a mural which includes many famous local characters past and present.

The Saltash Museum and local history centre now includes a mural on first floor level facing out over Lower Fore Street. As well as portraying the tale of Tamara (the full story of whom is available within,) it also includes Saltash residents from history all painted by local artist David Whittle who also painted the mural on the "Union Inn". Saltash Heritage, who run the museum and local history centre, commissioned the work through a bequest provided by Peter Bellingham, fifteen years treasurer and ardent supporter of Heritage.

As the Mayor Councillor Jean Dent unveiled a plaque below the mural, Heritage Chairman Martin Gee reminded those present, 'We are here to celebrate Peter Bellingham's life. He worked hard for Heritage in its early years and following his early and sad demise he was extremely generous to Heritage'. His bequest will also be put to updating Heritage's computer system. Peter's late father Gordon was Mayor and for many years Town Clerk of Saltash. His sisters Rose Davies and Heather Bellingham were present at the unveiling.

'This is a fabulous montage displaying aspects of Saltash history and legend', concluded the Mayor following the unveiling.

Lost Address!

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Bikes and Ale at Waterside Festival

Devonshire Dumpling, Hunter's Full Bore, Wolf Rock and Levitation – these were four of the real ales enjoyed by serious and not so serious drinkers at the fourth annual real ale festival held at the 'Union Inn'.

The Mayor, Councillor Mrs Jean Dent, was present to pull the first pint, but not being a real ale fan herself passed it to your Observer reporter who, knowing his civic duty, downed it on her behalf.

A beautiful weekend brought crowds including many families to the waterside. As youngsters paddled or swam, parents enjoyed the range of beers and of live entertainment laid on by Brian Pritchard Landlord of the 'Union Inn' together with Saltash Rotarians. This included blues from Vince Lee and Becca Langsford, Jazz and Swing from Tom Anfield Band, and Flood playing from their own compositions.

On the Sunday there were meets of motorcyclists and scooter riders, the crowds admiring a multitude of machines as the riders relaxed

in the easy ambience and prizes were awarded for best bikes.

Prizes too, many beer related, were awarded in the Rotary Raffle and Rotarians were also kept busy running a skittles tournament. Profits were divided between Riding for the Disabled, a charity chosen by Brian in appreciation of their help to his disabled daughter Kelly, and various Rotary supported causes.



The Mayor Jean Dent pulls the first pint



Best Vintage Bike

Burraton Community Centre Host National Free Singing Course

Learn-to-sing courses for men are being held at over 40 locations nationwide throughout October and November 2014. Designed to encourage men to take up or come back to singing, they involve learning as a group, which is relaxed and less daunting, and are completely FREE. Students will be given a solid basis, including music reading, on which to build their future singing activity.

Each course is run by selected qualified and experienced tutors in this case, locally, Delyth and Richard Knight of Western Approach Close Harmony Singers based in Saltash. Both have many years experience of singing, directing and coaching to bring to the course with the aim of making learning fun and to prove that singing is satisfying, rewarding and good for you.

A dedicated website is now live at www.learntosinguk.com for more information or your

local contact is Roger Williams, Telephone: 01752 500500, email: rogandjanwilliams@gmail.com

This six-week course starts on Tuesday 30th October 7.30pm at Burraton Community Centre, Grenfell Road, Saltash, PL12 4LJ

This is a FREE course aimed at getting more men, experienced or not, into singing using simple teaching methods to prove that just about anyone can sing. Come and discover your voice.

'Stop Loan Sharks'

Safer Cornwall, the community safety partnership for Cornwall, is working with Stop Loan Sharks, part of the Government's Illegal Money Lending Team, to tackle the problem of loan sharks in Cornwall.

David Parker, Community Safety Officer with Cornwall Council said: "We know that loan sharks are currently operating in Cornwall, but we need to gather more intelligence to identify and ultimately prosecute loan sharks who make a living out of preying on the vulnerable. Loan sharks may initially appear to be your 'friends' and even live nearby, but they quickly turn to threatening and sometime violent behaviour when they are not paid. Safer Cornwall wants to help people avoid these unscrupulous individuals.

We are calling on our partners, residents, people who have already borrowed money and are worried, and anyone who has information about the identity and activities of these individuals to get in contact and let us know."

Loan sharks are people who lend money to others without authority and without the appropriate licence issued by the Office of Fair Trading. They rarely, if ever, give any paperwork and if payments are missed they often use intimidation and violence to get money from their 'clients'.

David adds: "If you have been offered a cash loan; threatened when you couldn't pay; had your bank card been taken from you as a security or, if what you owe keep growing even though you are making payments, then you may well have been bitten by a loan shark.

If you, or anyone you know, has experienced any of these things or has any knowledge of loan shark activities then contact the Stop Loan Sharks team in complete confidence."

Geoff Brown, Cornwall Council cabinet member for homes and communities said: "I would urge anyone who is experiencing serious financial difficulties to seek help and advice from experts, such as the Citizens Advice Bureau, rather than resorting to loans from unknown people."

If you have any information, however small, on loan shark activities contact Stop Loan Sharks on the links below, or call 0300 5552222

Registry Office Future Uncertain

Saltash is one of six Cornish towns likely to lose its existing registry office as a result of Cornwall Council spending cuts.

The Council is looking to dispose of the present building and see if the registry office services could be transferred to another building.

This concerned Town Councillors who are anxious to ensure that the same services are retained in the town.

There were previous discussions over the registry office being moved to the Guildhall but these broke down over the issue of which rooms could be used for this. It was thought that the building could be an excellent venue for Civil Marriages, with excellent photo opportunities outside, but there was a question as to which rooms could be used for other registry office functions.

The Council was informed that there is already an interested party keen to buy the existing Registry Office in Plougastel Drive adjacent to the surgery.

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Oct: Sat 18th **Jarka** (MH)

Oct: Sun 19th **Shane Karaoke** (Bar)

Oct: Fri 24th **Mike Haywood Dance Night**
(£5.00) (MH)

Oct: Sat 25th **AI Toms** (Bar)

Oct: Sun 26th **Wrestling** (MH)

Nov: Sat 1st **The Wendellis** (Bar)

Nov: Fri 7th **Joker**
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Nov: Sat 8th **Street Talk** (Bar)

Nov: Sun 9th **Shane Karaoke** (Bar)

Nov: Sat 15th **Paul Kay** (MH)

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to
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The Observer Team
& All your friends

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Saltash Hosts Film Festival of the Tamar

A festival of film celebrating the Tamar and other rivers has been drifting downstream from Gunnislake to Devonport and fetched up on the Saltash shore for a weekend.

The Tamar bridges were the backdrop for those who braved the autumn chill for an open air showing of mainstream movie 'Stand by Me'. A large crowd enjoyed this moving coming of age movie set in rural Oregon in the 1950's. There was a double river connection, a dramatic scene showed the four boy heroes being chased by a train over a river bridge, and the film starred a youthful River Phoenix.

Ashtorre Rock was the focus for the rest of the festival in Saltash. On the Saturday artist Chris Welsby outlined his inspiration from rivers and sea and presented his work to a fascinated audience.

Art house cinema in the traditional 16mm format was a rare experience enjoyed at Ashtorre, featuring rivers from East to West, indeed

from China to America. The theme 'confluences' allowed a variety of short films beginning with 'Lock', Catherine Yass exploration of a local ferry ride through the gorges of the Yangtze, Turner prize nominee Catherine was present in Saltash for interview and discussion on this and her other works.

This was followed by Peter Hutton's 'Study of a River', a portrayal of the Hudson as it flows through an ice bound upstate New York, and as the audience was transported to mighty rivers crossing far continents the Tamar flowed serenely on outside the window.

'It's all about the river' was a month long festival organised through Plymouth University who thank the staff and volunteers at Ashtorre Rock for their supporting the project.

Saltash Christmas Festival
Saturday 6th December
4:30pm - 7:30pm
Christmas Market on Fore Street
Lantern Parade, Civic Carol Service & Fireworks
Saltash Shopping Week
December 6th - 13th
Entertainment and Competitions
From The Mayor's Parlour...



Its All About The River

To celebrate the festival Its All About The River which was taking place at various venues in the Tamar valley recently, Saltash Video Group started off the celebrations at the Ashtorre Rock community centre.

The event was well attended with the room almost full and all enjoyed films made by the group themed on the Tamar Valley and its river.

Films shown were 'The building of the Tamar road Bridge', 'Cotehele House and its grounds', 'The River Tamar from source to where it empties out into the English Channel' and finishing with a film celebrating 50 Years of The Tamar Road Bridge and the end of the Saltash to Plymouth Ferry.

Landrake Cake Bake for Cancer Charity

The ladies of Landrake busily baked cakes for the Macmillan nurses big coffee morning, then returned to the Sir Robert Geoffrey Hall with other villagers to enjoy them.

The Landrake Open Doors Group made all welcome to the hall, which had been decorated with balloons and bunting. Local DJ Peter Gunn added to the convivial atmosphere playing light background music.

A grand total of £330 was raised through this event.

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Despite the fact that we are still (at the moment of writing this) bathed in warm sunshine the Christmas Festival celebrations are well ahead in their preparation.

Councillor Hilary Frank, who put together last year's civic parade, lantern parade and Christmas Festival has been working really hard with her band of helpers to put together this year's Festival.

As usual it will take place on the first Saturday in December, which falls this year on the 6th December.

There will be a theme of pantomime characters, any stall holders dressed as a character will be offered a reduced price! If you

would like to book a stall please contact The Guildhall for a booking form.

- The Christmas Market and Pedestrian Haven from 4.30 to 7.30
- The Civic Parade, Switching on of Lights and Carol Service at 5.30
- The Lantern Parade at 7 pm
- Fireworks at 7.33.

We are hoping for new Christmas lights and possibly a splendid new Christmas tree in Victoria Gardens.

As ever much of the work done with the Lantern Parade happens in the last few weeks or even days before the event. If you could offer

any help it would be greatly appreciated. For example volunteers will be needed at the Guildhall on the morning of December 6th for 'torching and caning' (i.e. attaching the lanterns to canes and inserting battery-operated torches) and then in the evening from about 6pm to help with stewarding the Parade. Kindly let The Guildhall know if you can help and they will pass the message onto Hilary Frank who will welcome you with open arms!

I know it is hard to think in terms of Christmas just yet, but please put it in your diary, it will doubtless be a wonderful experience for all the family.

See November Observer for more information

Getting involved with the Christmas Festival

Set up a Stall at the Christmas Market (4:30pm - 7:30pm Dec. 6th)

Pitches at the Christmas Market on Fore Street are available for £20. (Discounts available for non-profit organisations.) Contact Saltash Guildhall for details.

Sing at the Civic Carol Service

The Community Christmas Chorus, formed especially for this occasion, will lead the carol singing when the Christmas lights are turned on. All are welcome - any age, any voice! Only one short rehearsal on November 21st. Completely free - but please register with Saltash Guildhall.

Help with the Lantern Parade

To make the Lantern Parade an annual, community event we need more people to join our volunteer group. You'll help at workshops, steward the Parade and make plenty of happy memories! Contact Saltash Guildhall for details.

Take part in the Pantomime Horse Race

Our theme for the Christmas Festival this year is Pantomime. Oh yes it is! Fancy joining in the Pantomime Horse Race and raising money for the Saltash Children's Appeal? Then take part in the Great Pantomime Horse Race. Again, contact Saltash Guildhall for details.

Saltash Guildhall, Lower Fore Street, PL12 6JX
Tel: 01752 848446

Blues Players

Monday 15th September saw the inaugural meeting of the "Tamar Blues Collective" at Saltash Social Club. In all approximately 25 musicians turned up to play blues. The standard varied from accomplished players to players either just starting out or coming back to music after a spell away.

The aim of the collective is to allow like-minded people to get together and play music. It has been agreed that we will meet at the Social Club each Monday starting at 8PM, allowing members to come and go throughout the evening. It is hoped that in time the collective will be able to put on concerts etc. to raise funds for local charities. Should there be any keyboard and sax players out there who would like to join us please, either turn up on a Monday or give me a call on 01752 848881

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SHERYLL MURRAY MP WRITES...



Saltash Chamber of Commerce hosted a joint meeting with other Chambers from throughout South East Cornwall at the China Fleet Club on 25 September.

I was pleased to see so many local Councillors, businesses and Officers from both Plymouth City Council and Cornwall Council as well as Plymouth Chamber of Commerce and Cornwall Chamber of Commerce come together to discuss opportunities for the future of both South East Cornwall as well as the wider South West.

Connectivity was one of the main concerns at the last meeting of South East Cornwall Chambers when they came together in Liskeard a few months ago. I have been communicating with both Minister and the Highways Agency over concerns about the A38. I am pleased that others are also pushing along the same lines to get better signage at Exeter and also improvements at the junctions.

I was pleased that I secured funding for some improvements at Carkeel Roundabout and the much needed foot bridge over the A38 which local people had been waiting for years to be put in place, but there is still much work to be done. I will continue to push for more improvements.

It was also good to hear from Plymouth City Council about the City Deal which was signed by Minister Greg Clarke and will provide employment opportunities and business opportunities for people on the South East Cornwall side of the River Tamar as well as those in Plymouth.

It often seems that those people who promote Cornish isolation have forgotten how important it is for the economy of South East Cornwall that we work closely with our neighbours across the River Tamar.

As someone who is proud to be Cornish born and bred with my Cornish Heritage stretching back through many generations, I fully understand

that our Cornish Identity should be protected. This does not mean however that it is healthy to be inward looking and parochial when it comes to our future. This is why I am delighted that the Plymouth City Deal and the Growth Hub operated by the Plymouth Chamber of Commerce will provide opportunities for my Constituents in South East Cornwall.

I am also pleased that the development of South Yard across the water in Devonport will provide employment and business opportunities for many of my Constituents.

I can remember many more people commuting to work in Devonport Dockyard than do so today, although it is still one of the highest employers for people who live in Saltash and Torpoint. In the same way, some manufacturing businesses from South East Cornwall supply goods to Devonport Dockyard. The development of South Yard and other areas has the potential to provide South East Cornwall with marine skilled employment opportunities once again.

A few weeks ago I travelled to Scotland to campaign for the "No" campaign because I believed the 300 year old marriage between England, Wales, Northern Ireland and Scotland should not have been destroyed through a messy divorce. I can fully understand the message that the Cornish identity I have and share with so many others is something which we should hold dear to our hearts and of which we should be proud. However, I also know that it is unrealistic to use sound bites like Cornish Assembly or Cornish Independence. Economically, South East Cornwall has the unique position to benefit from both the Plymouth City Deal and Convergence funding and this should be the focus over the coming years to ensure that Saltash and Torpoint on the banks of the Tamar as well as Liskeard, Looe, Lostwithiel and Callington benefit from the economic opportunities this presents.

Saltash Leisure Centre Support Jeans for Genes Day



Staff at Saltash Leisure Centre baked cakes and put on their Jeans to raise money for Jeans for Genes Day.

Jeans for Genes Day is an annual fundraising event and took place on Friday 19th September 2014. Jeans for Genes raises money for Genetic Disorders UK and aims to change the world for children with genetic disorders.

Individually, genetic disorders are rare but together they affect 1 in 25 children born in the UK - that's more than 30,000 babies each year. Their associated health problems mean that genetic disorders are the biggest cause of death of children aged 14 years and under.

Jeans for Genes Day provides funding for the care and support of children with genetic disorders through our grant programme. Each year they offer funding to a range of charities.

Visit www.geneticdisordersuk.org/grantprogramme/ to find out more.

Shoplifting Bans Start to Bite

A scheme allowing police to ban known shoplifters from all shops signed up to it is starting to bite in Saltash as well as Plymouth. Six Saltash shops are already a part of Plymouth Against Retail Crime (PARC) and others are expected to join over the next few months. Offenders are also banned from using Plymouth Citybus as well as over seven hundred local shops.

Participating shops have photographs identifying all of those banned and PARC has its own database that over the past eight years has been highly successful in helping the Police obtain Anti-Social Behaviour orders against prolific shoplifters. All PARC members receive information on any known offenders in their area quickly through a free Police community messaging service.

In the month up to the beginning of September thirteen thefts were reported in the Saltash Police area, many of these being from shops. There were 39 crimes in total, as against 54 during the equivalent period last year. These included twelve assaults, five criminal damage, two burglaries, one arson, one fraud, one harassment and two Public Order offences.

Conundrum Corner

Taking the initial letter to the answers to the following nine questions can you re-arrange them to make the name of a Town or Village in our locality?

- 1 Which card game is played with a pack of 24 cards with the 9 as the lowest card? (6)
- 2 Mount Elbert is the highest peak in which mountain range? (7)
- 3 For the production of which chewy confectionery is the French town of Montelimar best known? (6)
- 4 Edward IV was the first and Richard III was the last Monarch of which Royal House? (4)
- 5 Which School did Tom Brown attend in Tom Brown's Schooldays? (5)
- 6 In which County is the Isle of Purbeck found? (6)
- 7 What is removed from a substance in the process of Desiccation? (5)
- 8 Which instrument usually gives an orchestra its note for tuning up? (4)
- 9 Which word describes the fin located on the back of a fish? (6)

Answers on P7

If you have enjoyed this little quiz each month why not get together with a few friends and enter a team in the Saltash Town Quiz run in aid of our Scout Group. The quiz takes place on Friday, November 14th and more details can be obtained from Len Maddock on 651885

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Scotland and Cornwall

Politics can throw up the strangest of things. Who would have thought, for example, that when Alex Salmond announced the Scottish referendum two years ago that it could have ramifications for Cornwall. But two years on, in the dying moments of the campaign, the "better together" group "loved bombed" voters with promises of further devolution and thus opened the door to reform the Duchy.

Cornwall, as you know has a strong identity, with its own culture and history. So looks likely to be at the forefront of this seismic shift of power to the regions. Of course not everyone will welcome this, but I certainly will.

I expect that when we do see the details from the parties it won't be as comprehensive as some would hope. Certainly there will be no vote on independence offered, but what the actual detail is we will have to just wait and see. Personally I am hoping for more evolution, rather than revolution. So would want less bureaucracy and more community action. That might mean fewer county councillors and more decisions made in your areas rather than nationally. For me the most important aspect of this is that it will make such a difference to people's lives and not just add to a sense of us verses un-listening them. Politics after all should serve the people not



enslave them.

Recently I attended a Cornwall Chamber of Commerce meeting here in Saltash. The discussion focused on cooperation between Plymouth and Cornwall and the benefits we could share with the Peninsular City Deal. It was good to hear such a positive attitude of the traders and local councillors keen to promote goods and services, particularly as they were keen to focus on what they could do to offer work to our younger generation just starting out on their working life.

I am concerned though that we must get this right, for although creating jobs in Plymouth will no doubt benefit Saltash and the surrounding area, we do need to ensure that our local economy continues to grow with jobs on this side of the bridge as well. For this to succeed we need to see this initiative as piece of a jigsaw of which improving infrastructure and optimising financial resources also have a part to play. What was great to see is that the chamber of commerce is already considering this and more, and I look forward to the discussions on this at future meetings.

Phil Huty
PPC Lib-Dems

Road Should Commemorate Late Saltash Resident

A new development off Parkesway, Saltash needs to be named and the suggestion of Mark Lunne Court was put to Saltash Town Council.

The name found little favour with Councillors who instead suggest that it should commemorate a local citizen who had worked for the local community.

The Town Council had, earlier in the meeting, stood in silence to remember Hazel Greeves who had recently died. Hazel Greeves had been highly active in local organisations and in particular, the Mayor remembered, had always been an enthusiastic part of the team selling poppies for Remembrance Day. It was suggested that Greeves Court might be a more appropriate name for the new development.

Letter to the Editor...

I am writing from Belgium regarding my search for an old Royal Air Force colleague, George A Gray.

We served together at RAF Cosford in 1962 / 63 and I have not seen each other since.

The only other details that I have are the fact that he came from Saltash and was born in 1946.

Any information regarding his whereabouts would be greatly appreciated and please feel free pass on my contact details

Peter Swaine Tel: 0032 496 347851

Happy Days at Brunel School

"You don't know how much wonderfulness is inside you, until you put one foot in front of the other and try". This was just one of many inspirational messages Henry 'The Fonz' Winkler delivered to an enthusiastic audience of pupils, staff, parents and carers at Brunel Primary School this week.

Recounting his early years as a child struggling with dyslexia, it was clear to see what being Ambassador of the Achievement For All educational charity means to Henry. He has overcome educational and self-esteem challenges to become an internationally renowned actor and producer. Furthermore, he has become a bestselling author of the children's book series Hank Zipzer: The World's Greatest Underachiever – a feat he could not have imagined possible many years ago. CBBC's new comedy drama series Hank Zipzer, in which Henry stars as music teacher Mr Rock, is inspired by his books and his childhood learning experiences. As Henry told the Brunel pupils, "You write what you know about, you write what's in your mind".

Henry is visiting schools across the country on the My Way! Tour, with Nicky Cox – pioneering Editor of the UK's only children's newspaper First News – in partnership with Achievement For All. Nicky opened the morning event at Brunel with an invaluable session encouraging pupils to write their own reports and features for publication. A central message of the My Way! tour is that everyone learns differently. It aims to help pupils who are experiencing learning difficulties feel more positive about the challenges

they face and, ultimately, what they are capable of. "Every one of you has got greatness inside you", Henry proclaimed, "there is not one adult in this room, in this town, who cannot wait to see who you become... You are beautiful young people, I see your smartness in your eyes".

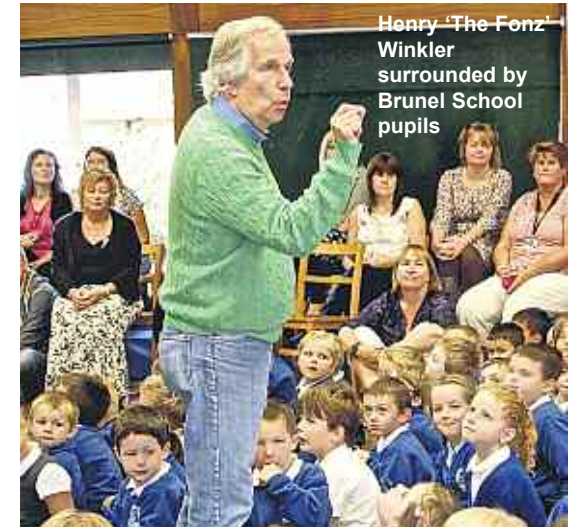
In regular fits of laughter throughout the session, pupils were visibly moved and uplifted by Henry and Nicky's positive learning messages. Jill Male, owner of Saltash shop The Bookshelf, was on hand to meet the demand for copies of the Hank Zipzer books to be signed by 'The Fonz' himself. "Oh it was brilliant, he was so entertaining, the children loved him and it's been very successful for the school", said Jill, adding that "loads of people have been buying books – I've had to fetch more from the car!".

While waiting in the long queue to meet Henry, clutching his freshly purchased book, Brunel pupil Jack summed up the experience for everyone: "I liked everything, finding out about First News was good because it's normally just adults who read newspapers and I think it's great that there's something for children. I thought the Fonz was really funny – I liked him telling us that we all have something special inside us – it made everyone feel good". Well said Jack!

By Jenny Lightley



From L-R: Brunel Primary School Headteacher, Henry 'The Fonz' Winkler, Debbie McIntyre HLTA (Higher Level Teaching Assistant), Anna Linsley SENCO (Special Educational Needs Coordinator), First News Editor Nicky Cox, and The Bookshelf shop owner Jill Male



Henry 'The Fonz' Winkler surrounded by Brunel School pupils

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Dowderry – Two executive detached 4/5 bed houses with views to the sea ng completion 2015 price Guide £450,000. Design choices possible.

New Homes developments coming soon in Elburton, and Derriford, Prices from £200,000. First Completions Summer 2015. Register now for interest.

Residential development sites currently under Planning Investigation and to be offered for sale upon receipt of consent in three coastal locations in South East Cornwall. Individual building plots and sites for major housing schemes. Register your interest now to obtain full details once permission is released. If you have land and would like free impartial advice as to the planning potential call us. We are pleased to provide a service to land owners and developers in Cornwall and Devon.

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Plans Proceed Apace for 25th Annual Saltash Music, Speech and Drama Festival

Preparations for the 25th Saltash Music, Speech and Drama Festival, to be held at Saltash Wesley Church from 26th January to 7th February 2015 are well under way.

There is a wide range of classes to suit all abilities from novice to the more experienced performer and all age groups are welcomed.

The organisers are delighted this year to have three extremely experienced adjudicators:

Melanie Armistead (Vocal Adjudicator) has performed as a soloist with many of the leading orchestras in the UK. She is also a recitalist for BBC Radio 3 and has performed all over the World. She enjoys adjudicating at Festivals and competitions both here and in Hong Kong.

Philip Thrupp (Speech Adjudicator) is a fellow of the Society of Teachers of Speech and Drama and has worked extensively in the West Country as well as other parts of the UK and abroad. In 1995, he was appointed International Examinations Coordinator for the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art and has worked extensively on the development of its overseas centres.

Helen Deakin (Instrumental Adjudicator) studied at the Royal Academy of Music and is involved with both the British

and International Federation of Festivals and Music for Youth. She has her own teaching practice in Dartmouth, as well as performing as a soloist and accompanist with various chamber groups and orchestras.

This prestigious festival is looking forward, once again, to welcoming past performers and meeting newcomers to this event, which has proved a great success and remains one of the largest events of its kind in the region.

The 2015 Syllabus and entry form is now available from the Bookshelf, Fore Street, Saltash and the Saltash Library in Callington Road.

All entries for those wishing to take part in the 2015 Festival must be received by Monday 24th November 2014.

Conundrum answers...

1 Euchre 2 Rockies 3 Nougat 4 York 5 Rugsby 6 Dorset 7 Water 8 Oboe 9 Dorsal Re-arranged the letters spell out the Village of Dowderry

Charity Coffee and Cakes in Ploughboy Pub



Saltash Leisure Centre October Half Term 2014



Throughout the Holidays until Friday 29th August 2014

Tuesday 28th October Trick or Treat Baking

8-14 years, £5 2pm - 4pm
A fun afternoon of baking and decorating your ghoulish creations with qualified and trained leaders. *Please wear old clothes and bring a drink.*

Wednesday 29th October Flip n Fun

Swimming lesson Stage 5 or above 9.30am - 11.30am, £11.60
Flip and fun is an introduction into the basic fundamentals of diving. This is a fantastic opportunity to learn how to dive safely and correctly. Please bring swimming kit and a drink.

Thursday 30th October Halloween Spooktacular Party

5-7 years, £5 1pm - 3pm
An afternoon of frightful fun! Come along in your best fancy dress for scary stories, games, crafts and more! Please remember a drink and suitable clothing.

For Bookings Telephone 01752 840940

Centre Opening Times:

Mon-Fri 6.30am-10pm Sat 6.30am-8pm Sun 7.30am-7pm

For more information on Holiday Activities please see our website or contact the centre Tel: 01752 840940 www.tempusleisure.org.uk
Saltash Leisure Centre Callington Road Saltash PL12 6DJ



Thursday 30th October Snorkelling Level 2

10-14 years, £11.60
1pm- 3pm
Run by a fully qualified instructor teaching further snorkelling skills for those that have already completed the Snorkelling 1 Award.

Children must be able to swim 50m competently and un-aided.

Friday 31st October Wet and Wild

All Ages - 10am-12pm
Body boards, balls, super soakers and great music make this session great fun for all ages. *Please note that all children under 8 years old must be accompanied by an adult and under 4s will still be charged the full price due to a restriction on numbers in the pool.*

For Further details on holiday activities see website or ask at centre

Parties at Saltash

We offer a great range of parties to accommodate all ages and party sizes.

Public parties are ideal for the smaller party, which we can offer a hot food or buffet menu. Whereas private parties give you a chance to have the pool to yourself with the use of the inflatable for 8-15 year olds and a fun floats session for supervised under 8's followed by a traditional buffet.

Home made cakes proved a firm favourite at the 'Ploughboy Inn' coffee morning in support of Macmillan nurses, helping boost the excellent sum raised of over £360.

The event got under way in advance when landlord Mike and several regulars organised a charity pool tournament in the bar.

Then on the big coffee morning Jane Hoskin with her daughters Louise, who is on the Ploughboy staff, and Catherine provide a delicious array of cakes. Having lost a family member to cancer they were especially eager to support Macmillan nurses as was Pete Edge, who organised the raffles, and as a family man with two children serving in the Royal Navy has been diagnosed with Hodgkins Lymphoma, fortunately in remission.

The event was well supported and the few cakes not consumed were eagerly purchased for home consumption or sold off over the bar with a coffee.

40-Mile Hike

Graham Parkinson, retiring fundraiser for Derriford Children's Cancer Service, accompanied by Michael Wallis, succeeding fundraiser, said "Naturally we were delighted when Donna and her team decided to support DCCS by undertaking the 40 Mile Hike. I was pleased to be able to meet the group at the end of the first day and know what they went through to raise these funds. The amount that they have raised is amazing and is very significant for our small charity."

Graham continued to say, "Our support for the children and their families is very broad, practical and emotional care is provided by all the members of the paediatric oncology team. One of the core elements of our work is funding a clinical psychologist, who supports children, their siblings and families who are struggling with the emotions of childhood cancer, and who, with other members of the paediatric oncology team provides support groups for parents, teenagers and siblings as well as organising special events to allow supportive relationships to develop between the families."

"Once again, congratulations to everyone who took part in the hike and sincere thanks on behalf of all the children and families who will benefit from this hugely generous donation"

Responsible Persons Required

To deliver "The Saltash & District Observer" in the **St Stephens Main Rd area** Only apply if you are very interested

Call Mary Crawford on
Tel: 01579 345699
M: 07971 484872

Or email details to:
marye.crawford@virgin.net

Saltash Age Concern

Saltash Age Concern gave their usual very warm welcome to Sue Hooper their regular speaker for the afternoon following very nice refreshments.

Sue gave a very interesting talk about Ann Glanville the famous Saltash Rower and heroine of the River Tamar during the mid-19th Century.

Ann born in 1796 was proclaimed World Champion oars woman when she was a grandmother.

She earned praise from Queen Victoria and dined at the table of the Queen's son (who was later to become King Edward 7th).

Initially, Ann ferried passengers across the Tamar from Saltash to Saltash Passage and rowed countless seamen to their vessels moored off-shore at a time when Saltash was alive with shipping.

She also carried all manner of cargo aboard her little boat including large sacks of corn. She transported cargo alone from Sutton Pool (in Plymouth) to a point two miles up River from Saltash (a ten mile round trip).

Ann began life as a humble water-woman (a Saltasher) and was mother to her own fourteen children. She was tough and stood at six foot tall and she had huge hands which gave a clue to her strength.

Ann began rowing for a living when she was nineteen years old (the year of Wellington's Waterloo). Whenever possible she spent every day light hour on the water to support her large family when her husband John (himself a skilled waterman) became too ill to work.

She was a member of the last generation to use the strength of the hand and arm to cross the River Tamar, before steam power arrived (paddle steamers 1854) or Brunel's Bridge spanned the river 1859.

When local Regattas began to include races for women in the late 1820's Ann saw it as a golden chance to prove she was equal to any rowing man. Ann and her team successfully rowed at Plymouth, Liverpool, Manchester, Birmingham, Yorkshire, and Portsmouth. Her most famous event reputed to be at an International Regatta at Le Havre in France in the 1840's where she led her team to victory to a rapturous applause of thousands of spectators.

Ann died in June 1880 (134 years ago) at the wonderful age of 84 years, and is buried at St Stephens Church Yard, Saltash.

Ann is still remembered and in Saltash with an estate road named in her honour. Caradon Gig Club (based in Saltash) have named one of their gigs the Ann Glanville, and a fitting statue of Ann sits on a (talking bench) in Fore Street Saltash, and shoppers can stop and listen to Ann's history thus keeping her memory alive for all to learn and enjoy.

Saltash Arts Festival Acclaimed Success

Increased footfall in Fore Street, prospective customers making their first visits to shops and many favourable comments on the variety of activities organised all made the First Saltash Arts Festival in August and September a success, organisers believe.

All town centre shops were invited to participate, most did so, organising entertainment or an activity. Many visitors enjoyed such new experiences as plaiting bread in Bishop's Bakery, sampling knitting and crochet in Piglets, bookbinding in The Bookshelf and flower arranging in The Flowery. More exotic experiences such as how to tie a bow tie in Vanessa's, with sugar paste flowers for cake decoration in Maitlands and jewellery demonstrations at



Book binding in the Bookshelf

Lloyds Pharmacy.

Many local businesses reported back customer comments to organiser Jill Male of Saltash Bookshelf. 'Very informative and useful' and 'I will be booking a consultation in the near future' was among feedback from Janine of

Genuine Beauty.

Meanwhile artists publicly painted, musicians played and local banks in particular reported great interest in Saltash Camera Club exhibitions held in their premises. Over three hundred people experienced Brunel Quilting while a flow of admirers paused at Treasure Island to view the Saltash Chronicles Tapestry. Live folk music in the 'Brunel' was especially appreciated as was Martin Lister's sometimes quirky look at the town's history on

his 'Saltash Gems' walk.

Positive feedback and the number of first visits made to local shops is a clear incentive to hold the Second Saltash Arts Festival next summer, building on our success', concluded Jill Male over a relaxing tea in the 'Bookshelf's cafe.

THE PLOUGHBOY

Christmas Day Menu

2 Course £35.00 3 Course £42.50
Child 2 Course £25.00

Starters:

Homemade Broccoli and Stilton soup served with a Granary roll.

Pork, Chicken Liver Pate with a Cranberry topping, served with Toast and Salad garnish.

Prawn Cocktail - Fresh Prawns in Seafood Sauce sat on a bed of leaves and served with brown bread & butter.

Mains:

Roast Turkey Beef or Pork - Carvery Style with seasonal trimmings.

Vegetarian Turkey Style Roast with Wensleydale, Cranberry & Orange Centre, a meat free soya based, coated in a tasty crumb filled with cheese, cranberries & orange served with seasonal vegetables and vegetable gravy. Smoked Haddock and Spring Onion Fishcakes on a bed of oriental stir-fry vegetables and new potatoes.

Desserts:

Christmas Pudding - Traditional Christmas pudding served with Brandy Sauce or Clotted Cream

Three Layered Chocolate Mousse, (White, Milk & Dark Chocolate) served with Raspberry Coulis & Clotted Cream.

Banoffee Pie - Digestive base banana slices and sweet toffee sauce topped with Fresh Cream

After your meals you will be served with Tea & Coffee and a Mince Pie

Pre-orders Required

Call 01752 842861 for booking

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

Liskeard Rd Saltash Cornwall