



SALTASH AND DISTRICT OBSERVER

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September 2009 - Issue 206

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COUNTY COMMUNITY NETWORKS COULD HELP BRING POWERS BACK TO TOWN

Saltash is anxious to be involved in a 'Pathfinder' scheme whereby Cornwall's new unitary authority will work with larger towns and give them increased powers over local facilities.

This message was given by the town council to Steve Beresford-Foster, Area Manager (East) Localism Service and Simon Swale, Community Network Manager for Saltash and Torpoint who attended for a discussion with town councillors.

"There are already 25 pilot projects underway in schemes where towns are taking over responsibilities such as grass cutting from the county," Saltash councillors were told. "We want to see how they work. Then the more experienced town councils can become more greatly involved."

There was concern when

the council was told that the pilot scheme was rolling out from West to East, meaning that although Saltash had been quick to express interest it was among the last to be involved. However, since the newly formed Cornwall cabinet now wished to review the formal aspects of the community network scheme this could work to Saltash's advantage, the town was told, as Saltash would be first in line with any changes. "We hope that agreements with town councils will be worked on hopefully by the end of the year," the town was advised.

The guests from Cornwall Council were reminded that Saltash had objected to being grouped with Torpoint as a 'community network' and asked if, in a review, a more local network limited to surrounding parishes in the "PL12" postal area could be reconsidered. This was possible, the town was told.

"The Saltash and Torpoint community network is

challenging and we want a network to make sense."

Meanwhile Mr Beresford-Foster suggested that informal links be established between civic leaders of Saltash, Torpoint, and local parish councils, perhaps over cheese and wine as happened in Liskeard. "This soon resulted in networking together," he stated.

Deputy Mayor Adam Killea asked whether community network groups were intended to include one representative from each area. Given that the population of Saltash was 80 times that of some rural parishes this would create a serious imbalance, he suggested.

"This is to be taken up in the review. The opposite argument from some of the villages is that issues would be geographical rather than population related," was the response.

"Ours will be a different relationship from that between the town and the former district councils and we are looking to find new ways of working successfully together," confirmed Mr Swale. "Community network managers will need to have a close working relationship with Cornwall Council members while also supporting town councils in a more general way." He confirmed that as the county's community network manager he would be pleased to attend town council meetings if invited.

Regatta attracts record rowing crews



Waitrose marketing manager Sophie Jarvis "checks out" the lads



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More regatta coverage inside

LOW PARKING CHARGES COMBAT CREDIT CRUNCH

Car parking charges of just ten pence for the first hour are helping Saltash shops in fighting off the effects of the credit crunch.

This nominal charge is encouraging local residents and visitors to park and shop in Saltash and other towns in South East Cornwall.

Now other towns in Cornwall are seeking to persuade the new Cornwall Council to follow the lead of the former Caradon Council in introducing low parking costs to encourage commerce while retaining higher charges for long term parking.

Exceptions include Looe, which owns its own car parks and also has its own agenda concerning tourists, and also Bodmin.

Cornwall Council is due to review all parking charges which are traditionally considered a major source of income to local authorities.

CARKEEL HOTEL AND RESTAURANT GIVEN GO-AHEAD

A new hotel and restaurant complex with full conference facilities to be built between Saltash and Carkeel has been given the go-ahead by Cornwall County Planning Committee.

This is despite a recommendation for refusal by Saltash Town Councillors who were concerned at road safety issues as well as 'ribbon development' linking Carkeel to Saltash. A historic milestone adjacent to the site is, however, to be safeguarded.

The hotel, on a former landfill site, can now be built and developers hope it will be open for business to cater for crowds expected when the English Open Golf Tournament is held at St Mellion in 2011.

Saltash Town Councillor

Derek Holley, who serves on the Cornwall Planning Committee spoke against the hotel development but was outvoted in a minority of one.

He suggested that rather than encourage a new pub and restaurant on the edge of town, the trade in Saltash should be preserved. He also commented on the lack of safe pedestrian access over the A38 among other safety issues.

For the applicants it was stated that the hotel would create local employment in its construction and around forty local jobs when it is open and running.

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FINANCIAL PLANNING TIPS FOR SENIORS

If you are nearing retirement, it is time for you to know if the money you have saved is enough to help you get through after retirement.

This is the time to review your finances and plan everything carefully. There are several help resources that you can easily find everywhere, from books to the Internet. This is a good way to know how you can start ahead of time and achieve a financial stability that you require once you are ready to go into retirement. There are several benefits in terms of services that you may receive as a senior citizen. However, this does not mean that you should just rely on those benefits and not think about emergency situations that may happen in the future. Learning from the experts may be very helpful but you too can do something to help you budget your finances easily.

What is Financial Planning

Financial planning is a dynamic process that allows you to visualize your personal goals and model the financial consequences of your choices. This process adds a holistic factor to the method of financial planning through the consideration of non-financial decisions that you make throughout your life. The activities related to financial planning are directed toward achieving certain personal goals instead of building affluence and maintaining financial security for the future. In financial planning, the advisor normally explores the issues of your life as they usually relate to money. The advisor then facilitates a dialogue in order to communicate his or her interest to you as a whole person.

Importance of a Financial Planner

A financial planner is important as he or she can help you manage your money. They use a client-centered approach and help you see the wisdom in developing a plan for which you can use your money to make a life after having spent most during your money-making life. You might find that you can be receptive to professionals who have the ability to draw out your vision of your life and help you in facilitating the materialization of that vision. If having a financial planner is important, financial planning per se is also important.

This process can help you explore the meaning of money to your life as a senior and define the tangibles and intangibles that you expect your assets to provide you. In addition, you can anticipate events and transitions in your life and make your financial preparations for those occurrences. Financial planning can also assist you in creating financial goals that can facilitate your life goals. Lastly, through financial planning, you will be able to acquire a network of professionals that you can be referred to for further assistance.

Budgeting for the Future

Budgeting can help you build a personal and financial freedom. The budget is also the main necessity of any financial planning because without it, you cannot make your dreams into reality. Through the process of budgeting, you can organize current financial information as well as your long-term financial situation. Planning for a financial security in the future is important. Setting goals and realizing what you have saved can help ease the budget since these are important tools in the process. Budgeting can be hard but it is fairly easy to locate the areas in your life where you are probably overspending. By identifying those areas, you will be able to spot financial problems even before they harm you. If you have a budget, you can find methods of eliminating your debt and start saving for your goals.

Tips on Budgeting

One tip to budget properly is to look at your spending habits. Although being a senior normally entails lesser purchases, it does not mean that you are not vulnerable to debt and money shortage. If you find an area that can become problematic, you can easily find ways to change it. Once you get the habit of creating a budget, you should not just file it away. Instead, the budget must be reviewed frequently and remember to keep an eye on it. If there may be times you need to revise categories, or trim costs, you can easily do so by retrieving your past budgets and eventually weigh your options.

FIRE CADETS WELCOME CHERNOBYL CHILDREN



Chernobyl Children excited at the thought of their holiday ahead.

Children from Chernobyl were given a welcome party by Saltash Fire Cadets who also handed over a cheque for £750 which they had raised towards the expenses of the life-prolonging visits. The monies had been raised by the young Saltash Fire Cadets through a sponsored 24 hour row. At the welcome party Saltash and Chernobyl youngsters shared the fun of a bucking bronco and live entertainment from an Elvis impersonator, much appreciated by the Belarus visitors. The visitors also enjoyed the barbecue though clearly preferring the fresh fruit to the burgers. In their homeland fresh fruit is still a hazard 23 years after the nuclear disaster that still shortens childrens' lives and a Geiger counter is usually taken out when shopping. Following the welcome party the children returned to their host family homes looking forward to four weeks of adventure at a variety of beach resorts and theme parks.

DELIGHT AT RESPONSE OVER PILLMERE ROADS

Sheryll Murray has spoken of her delight after securing an agreement that will see a number of unfinished roads on a Saltash housing estate finally being completed.

Local campaigner Sheryll has been pushing for Cornwall Council to give assurances that a number of roads on estate at Pillmere will be completed after years of standing unsurfaced and incomplete..

Now, after talks with Cornwall Council, she has been assured that the necessary highways works on the estate should be completed by "the end of the financial year".

Sheryll took action on behalf of a number of frustrated residents on the estate after listening to their concerns during a number of canvassing sessions in the area.

A number of residents on the 600-home estate told Sheryll that they had been waiting years for a number of roads and pathways to be completed – but without success.

The problems arose after the last development on the state, on land just of the A38,m finished more than two years ago, when several roads, footpaths and walkways were left unsurfaced.

Those problems were compounded when the company which managed the development ceased trading earlier this year - with the work still incomplete.

Having heard the concerns of the residents, Sheryll contacted Cornwall Council on their behalf to see what could be done to rectify the problem.

She has now heard back from councillor Graeme Hicks who, in an email, gave an assurance that "the bond is being called in and Cormac

are being asked to complete the highway works which include the cycle ways, carriageway and footway works. This should all be completed by the end of the financial year. Please note this does not include works on the public open space areas."

In response Sheryll, who is also the Conservative Prospective MP for South East Cornwall said: "This is a massive step forward for the residents of the Pillmere estate and I am delighted that the roads will finally be completed.

"However, I appreciate this will still leave work to be done - such as issues with amenities, drainage and the open spaces. I can assure everyone that I will continue to campaign and argue that these issues are dealt with and that these roads are ultimately adopted."

GLEBE AVENUE SPEEDING CAUSES CONCERN

Glebe Avenue is being used as an early morning rat run, particularly, it is believed, by parents rushing late children to school.

Local residents have expressed concern at traffic speeding along this residential road especially before 9 a.m.

Buses are also causing concern since this is now a route used by regular services for First and Western Greyhound scheduled routes. Buses coming down the hill, while they may not be exceeding the legal speed limit, are still going at a speed which is excessive for the road conditions, Town Councillors have been told. They have passed these concerns on to local police.

STREET PARKING LIMITS MUST BE ENFORCED

Motorists who may believe that the street parking regulations are not normally enforced outside normal working hours could have to think again, town councils throughout Cornwall are hoping.

Saltash Town Council has added its support to Looe, Launceston, Callington and Fowey, all of which have expressed concern at current street parking enforcement. They note that since regulation of on-street parking passed from the police to the local authority in May 2008 the civil enforcement officers have mounted infrequent patrols and these have been mainly restricted to Monday to Friday between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

This is to change, it is anticipated, as the Cornwall Council is urged by Saltash and other towns to extend patrols to cover evenings, weekends and bank holidays. This should ease problems currently encountered by residents and visitors in negotiating streets. It is of especial importance to ambulances and fire engines which encounter problems caused by illegal street parking.

The police do, is any event, retain the authority to take action if a vehicle is parked in such a way as to cause obstruction or danger.

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

I am delighted to be able to report on the work within the new "Cornwall Council" through the Saltash Observer. It is still very early days with the council and August has been a time of more training and concentrating on our local community area. I have been attending various training courses on planning and the Regulatory Committee, of which I am the Chairman. The Regulatory Committee is responsible for two completely separate agendas, school transport appeals and modification orders (Village Greens and Cornwall footpaths).

I am also a member of the Tamar Bridge and Torpoint Ferry Committee with Councillor Holley. This is a joint committee with Plymouth City Council and there are six members from each council who meet on a regular basis. One of the main items on our agenda is the increase in tolls for both the bridge and the ferry. I know a lot of people are against this increase – quite understandably so – but I would ask that before you make up your mind you look on the website www.tamarcrossings.org.uk to enable you to understand better the need for the increase. This will be a very difficult decision to make but at the end of the day the committee has invested a lot of money to:-

- 1) Upgrade the bridge
- 2) Replace all the ferries
- 3) Introduce the new Tag system.

There is currently a £300,000 shortfall of monthly income. The discount tolls have not been increased for twelve years and full price tolls have remained the same for nearly fifteen. Unfortunately, I see no alternative to our having to accept these changes – Cars

£1 to £1.50 and concessions 0.50p to 0.75p, which is comparable with the majority of other river crossings in the UK.

I have also signed up to the Mount Edgcombe Joint Committee. As most of you know, Mount Edgcombe is owned jointly by the Cornwall Council and Plymouth City Council and once again the committee consists of six members from each. One of the first responsibilities to be undertaken by the committee is to decide who will be taking on the new contract for the Cremyl Ferry, which has just run out with the current company. This could provide new opportunities, both for Mount Edgcombe and the surrounding area.

PL12 – the most desirable area to live. I know this is now old news but I would like to say a few thank you's to some of those who have helped to achieve this.

1. Schools – one of the areas in which we scored highly was our schools, so thanks to all our head teachers and staff who have worked so hard to achieve such high standards.

2. Police – never an easy job, but I have worked closely with the local police through the Town Council Antisocial Behaviour Meetings. I know how closely the police work with the local community and they are to be congratulated on their low crime rate results.

I would ask that we all work together to promote our town through business interests, tourism and town regeneration (which the Observer is supporting in all their issues). This result from Microsoft could if we play our cards right improve our quality of life and raise the status of PL12 even further.

Bob Austin CC
Cornwall Council

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A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

Dear Residents of Saltash

Not much improvement to the weather from my last message to you – but I do hope you all had a super holiday – and that the children were well occupied during their summer break too!!

We have continued with our very busy schedule and visited many worthy organisations and other celebrations; includingThe 65th Wedding Anniversary of Doug and Joan Colton (what a loving couple) – Doug and Joan in the past have been outstanding ambassadors of our town – and I wish them continued happiness for more happy years together. Saltash Rugby Club are celebrating their 40th Anniversary and John and me paid a visit – we watched them play a trial match against Devonport Services – it was a great match and Saltash won the game – marvellous! – that will put them in good stead for the rest of the season – I was delighted to meet up again with two of the original members – Bill Ryan and Reg Dickerson they are real stalwarts and the team and supporters respond to their dedication; Deputies Adam and Merryn also paid a few visits to the Club and had a very nice welcome and time.

We were invited to the Plymouth Lord Mayor's visit of Civic Heads of Devon and Cornwall at the Theatre Royal – it was excellent to meet with the "Chain Gang" – we were able to exchange ideas and it was a good networking opportunity too.

John, me and some Councillors enjoyed an evening of bowling at the Saltash Bowling Club recently – we lost but we put up a valiant fight – and we were made so welcome by the club members – this has become an annual event that we all look forward to.

Since my time in office I have been able to visit other larger Councils – I have visited Helston, Bodmin and Falmouth to see how they are dealing with Unitary Council issues – it has proved to be very useful – and I am able to advise Saltash Town Council of the meetings – we have discussed mainly localism

matters and how the transition to unitary will hopefully work; a lot of personnel want to see it work and I do too – but we have a long way to go yet! – I am sure you are aware that the "One Stop Shop" – for Cornwall issues/matters which affect Saltash are at the Saltash Library – and the staff are there to advise you. Of-course Saltash Town Council and Councillors are there too – so please do contact us.

Saltash Town Council hosts an Antisocial behaviour forum on a regular basis – there are many stakeholders on that forum who are trying very hard to address Antisocial issues; We have our local Constabulary, youth clubs and movements – and things are discussed fully and actioned which is most reassuring. Our local Police are working hard and are organising all sorts of projects for young people who would benefit from various activities.

I presume you have all received the information on the A38 Carkeel Roundabout proposed crossing? – this has followed many requests from Saltash Town Council and the local community – as a result – there is a Public Consultation Exhibition at Ashtorpe Rock – on Friday 25th September between 8.00 am and 8.00 pm – please do attend and make your views known to the Highways Agency.

Saltash Town Council's Civic Service will be on Sunday 18th October – 2.30 pm parade from Victoria Gardens for a 3.00 pm Service at St Nicholas & St Faith Church (all welcome)!

Finally!! – my Mayor's main Charity this year will benefit "Help For Heroes" – this is a very worthy cause – and I will be asking organisations and individuals if they would kindly fund raise for the Mayor's Charity – I would welcome any donations and from organised events (which I would help to promote).

That's it for now folks. See you around and about Saltash for sure!! Kindest regards Councillor Sue Hooper Mayor of Saltash

ARTISTS INVITED TO LINK INTO WORLDWIDE SALTASH PICTURE SHOW



Artists John Forster, Richard Allman with Lynn Marsh of Ashtorpe and a selection of the artists who came to the launch of the exhibition featuring their work.

An exhibition featuring professional and amateur images of the Royal Albert Bridge as part of this year's 150th anniversary celebrations also forms the launch of the

www.bigsaltashpictureshow.com.

Open to all Saltash based artists who wish to display their art worldwide or to those based anywhere who wish to display their work about Saltash. Entry to the new website is free.

The official launch of the new website formed a part of the preview for the highly successful Painting the Bridge exhibition at Ashtorpe which ranged the work of two local professional artists alongside that of a number of eager amateur enthusiasts who had been encouraged to portray

the Royal Albert Bridge from a variety of imaginative angles.

All of the work which was enjoyed in the Painting the Bridge exhibition, professional and amateur, may be enjoyed again on the website, details of which are given above. Those artists wishing to take advantage of its free membership should go to the same site and just click 'how to join'.

The idea for a long term asset for Saltash artists grew from the Draw the Bridge project and the resultant exhibition, one of a number which have been displayed at the ideal Waterside setting of Ashtorpe over the year. These have been enjoyed by many Watersiders and other local residents and in particular by

well-known local vet John Rees MRCVS. Following his untimely death earlier this year his family were looking for a suitable way to commemorate this former enthusiastic member of the Ashtorpe Centre and great art lover. The family decided to sponsor an art project as a living memorial to this well-loved character and look forward to seeing the variety of Saltash based art of every description which can now be given worldwide web coverage due to their generous idea.

The Big Saltash Picture Show

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RECENT WAR DEAD TO BE REMEMBERED

The war memorial by St Stephens Church, erected to recall the local men killed in World War 1, to which those of World War 11 were subsequently added, will also commemorate those lost in recent conflicts.

Those include former saltash.net.school student Richard Robinson who recently lost his life in Afghanistan and Gary Nelson who died in the Falklands conflict.

A third name, that of L.E. Furse is under investigation for inclusion. He died the year after the conclusion of World War 11 and further information is being sought as to whether his death was a direct consequence of the war.

Arrangements are to be made for the names to be added so that they may be remembered at this November's Remembrance Day Service.

ALL NIGHT DELIVERIES DISTURB PILLMERE RESIDENTS

Heavy trucks delivering adjacent to a residential estate at all hours of the night are causing residents sleepless nights.

This was a complaint made by a Pillmere resident during the Saltash Town Council's public question time.

"Pillmere residents were asked whether they had any objections to a Lidl's store being sited next to their estate. They replied that they had no objections provided deliveries were not being made at ridiculous hours," she reminded the Council. She added that it was an agreed condition that deliveries to the store should be between 9.30 a.m. and 4.30 p.m. on weekdays and 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at weekends.

Instead, she alleged, Pillmere residents are

awakened by heavy trucks arriving and delivering, and their motorised refrigerators sounding off, from 6 a.m. onwards and sometimes earlier, between 1 a.m. and 2 a.m.

Deputy Mayor Adam Killea, who chaired the council meeting when this was raised, thanked the resident for bringing the matter to public attention. He confirmed that planning conditions for the supermarket would be checked. He also agreed to speak personally to Lidl's management and to pursue the matter on behalf of sleepless Pillmere residents.

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CARRY ON QUIZZING

"Carry on Quizzing" a fun "big screen quiz" with a 'Carry on' feel is to be held at Brunel School (next to the library and leisure centre) on Friday 16th October.

Every penny from this event goes to the George Appeal, a local charity raising money for neonatal care in the area. The quiz itself has a wide range of subjects (not Carry on films!) all been written by and to be presented by Saltash quizmaster David Chapple a.k.a. the "Whysguy". Teams of up to 4 are welcome at £10 per team.

Last year David's quizzes including 'The Quizzard of Oz' and 'Quiz Me, Hardy!' raised over £5500 for local charities and this year he is hoping to help raise even more. For an entry form or more details contact David on 07988

807990 or download from the webpage www.whysguy.co.uk A further running, with completely different questions, will be taking place on Friday 6th November at Liskeard Town Hall for the Children's Hospice South West Precious Lives Appeal. For more details contact Anne Purdon on 01579 345735.

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Go for it Mary you are doing a grand job!

REGATTA ATTRACTS RECORD ROWING CREWS AND FESTIVE FUN AFLOAT

The sparkling waters of the River Tamar were alive with craft of all descriptions over the first weekend in July. Saltash Regatta attracted a record entry of competitors ensuring fun and excitement for oarsmen, sailors and shorebound spectators.

In a lively breeze dinghies danced across the waves, gig boats sped by and flash boats - well flashed!

Caradon Gig Club welcomed over 125 crews from across the south west to compete in the tribute mixed and veterans gig championships that it was proud to host as part of Saltash regatta. While a highlight proved to be the strong competition from the trainee sailors from HMS Raleigh vying for the Prince of Wales cup, there was a constant excitement of speeding pilot gigs with crews of all ages.

As usual the serious competition contrasted with a variety of 'fun' events. Saltash once again challenged councillors from the five towns in South East Cornwall to complete in the Five Towns

Challenge, this year for the recently re-discovered Herbert Davy Cup as well as the magnificent Waitrose Shield. Once again Looe proved the winner but with our own Saltash councillors a creditable second.

On the Sunday an even greater attraction was the ever-popular race to England. Rowers, many in fancy dress, competed in carrying the Cornish flag to plant in on the Devon shore. This year our visitors from our twin town of Plougastel were encouraged to enter a team, 'The Flying Frogs' and were warmly applauded as they won their heat.

Overall winners for the third successive year were our local firemen 'Blazing Paddles'. They proudly accepted once again the 'Dave Bond Memorial Trophy,' presented to them by Beryl Bond whose late husband's love of the Saltash Waterside inspired the award. "We still miss Dave who would have loved the atmosphere of the weekend", commented Regatta Committee member Clare Ellison.

Second home to Cornwall in an exciting final were the toga-garbed 'Roman Rowers' while third were 'Tamar Trotters' dressed as the Village People.

The committee was extremely grateful for the loan, at late notice, of a safety boat provided by Plymouth Powerboat School, without which the event could not have been held.

The Launceston Town Band leading a procession down Fore Street which included a lookalike Victorian oarswoman, Ann Glanville in the pilot gig boat that bears her name, heralded the 2009 Saltash Regatta, an event which dates from the early 19th century and predates that of Henley.

The fun and excitement of those early regattas was surely more than matched for the many thousands who followed that procession down to Saltash Waterside and over the course of the weekend.

While much of the focus was on the waterborne events the 'Waterside Festival' which accompanied the Regatta ensured plenty of fun and interest for all ages on the shore.

First however, a short but moving drumhead service was conducted by the Reverend Jeff Howden to mark the fact that this was also Veterans' Day. Young cadets were proud to march with ex-servicemen and to share the service with them.

The Town was pleased to welcome Lawrence Reed of BBC Radio Cornwall, who recalled his early days as a cub reporter in and around Saltash as he declared the event open. Then it was time for the fast assembling throng to discover what a feast of activities had been provided along the foreshore from the Sailing club to Jubilee and Brunel Green.

There were three separate entertainment areas which hosted all manner of music and fun ranging from Wreckers' Morris and Braga Tango to Punch and Judy and Sam the Amazing Teenage Unicyclist. And just as it seemed all was nearly over late Sunday afternoon your intrepid ace reporter was drawn back to report upon 'Flowers of the Nile', exotic belly dancers! The youngest visitors could ride a miniature train and all ages enjoyed meeting with Leo, the gentle giant shire horse on a welcome return to Saltash.

All around the Waterside, and, in particular linking the Waterside with Jubilee Green, was a variety of stalls offering in particular, a wide choice of food and drink from across Europe and well beyond. On Jubilee Green the stalls offered a variety of crafts, many locally produced and attracting much interest.

Many of those thousands who thronged the Waterside took advantage the free park and ride bus service from Carkeel, especially popular since the whole Waterside area was pedestrianised for the weekend.

Those from further afield were encouraged to come by train by a number of services making special stops in Saltash.

At the conclusion of the Sunday afternoon, a tired but apparently satisfied Regatta Chairman Joe Ellison told the 'Observer'. "It has been excellent again with a brilliant turnout especially on the Saturday. Stallholders are delighted. This event really brings a sense of community to Saltash in general and showcases our attractive Waterside in particular."



Beryl Bond presents the Dave Bond Memorial Trophy to winners Blazing Paddles



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Kevin Baskott brings the Plymouth Powerboat to the rescue!



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WAITROSE SPONSOR THE FIVE TOWNS CHALLENGE



As one of the main sponsors of Saltash Regatta, and donors of the Five Towns Challenge Shield, Waitrose were pleased to present the shield to the deserved winners Looe. There was special interest in the two local suppliers Lynher dairies cheese company and Boddingtons Berries, who were providing the regatta visitors with tasty samples of their goods in the Waitrose marquee.

THE OBSERVER SEEKS OUT THE BRAINS OF SALTASH

We are delighted that already so many of you are getting nearly as enthusiastic as ourselves about another fun year of fund raising for charities in order to celebrate the eighteenth "coming of Age" anniversary of the Saltash Observer.

We have decided that one of our chosen charities should be the Plymouth branch of the P.D.S.A. which we know is much appreciated by pet owners in Saltash and elsewhere around Plymouth. We will also be supporting a Saltash based good cause, or good causes, to be announced during the coming year.

And our first fun fundraising event, we can now disclose, will be a grand charity quiz night where we intend to discover the brainiest business, or club, society, or other group putting a team together from in or around Saltash.

Already we are aware that a number of local businesses, are preparing a team building exercise for the evening of Friday, November 27th. In addition families or groups of friends have eagerly booked tables so that they too can pit their wits, share the fun, and also the refreshment and maybe live entertainment that we intend should form part of an evening to remember, as well as to build up our charity fund in fitting style.

Indeed so great was the enthusiasm that all of the space available in the Ashtor Centre, which is kindly hosting the event, was booked out by word of mouth before publication of this month's Observer. So for quiz fans, or those who are not especially quiz minded but just enjoy a fun 'Observer style' social night out, if we sold out of space before we could let you know about it, our apologies - but we will be putting together a list for would-be entrants for another Observer fun quiz evening in the the spring of 2010

Meanwhile, we have other fun fund-raising events still under wraps but which we hope to be able to disclose

shortly. For the present we will simply say - look out for info on our Grand Sunday morning outdoor adventure.

We are thrilled that so many of you are already keen to be involved in yet another busy year of having fun raising funds for local good causes. We will make sure that all who wish to participate will have the chance to do so. And we will, of course, fully account for all of the proceeds so that you will know how all of your hard earned contributions to our charity bash have been distributed.

May we take this opportunity of thanking those who have already donated to our charity pot, it's started and we will keep it going and hopefully have a good pot at the end of our year to distribute to our charities.

If you would like to donate please send your donations Payable to Mary Crawford, (and write on the back Observer Charity pot) Hendra Manor Higher Tremar Nr Liskeard Cornwall PL14 5HJ

BRING ON THE BAND

A bandstand in Longstone Park is a project being considered by the Town's Gateway Community Interest Company.

This is to be supported in principal by the Town Council, its Civic Amenities Committee agreed, subject to local consultation. The possibility of grant funding may be looked into by the Town Council if Gateway so wish.

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THANK YOU TO WAITROSE

A collection was recently held at Waitrose in aid of the League of Friends of St. Barnabas Hospital when an amount of over £690 was raised.

We would like to express our thanks to Waitrose for allowing us to hold a collection on their premises and also thank all those who gave so generously. However we were disappointed to hear during this collection that quite a number of people were not even aware that there was a hospital in Saltash. St. Barnabas Hospital was built in 1888 in remembrance of Richard Ley, Priest, by his wife Caroline Ley and is situated in Higher Port View - next door to the Port View Surgery in Saltash. A booklet on the history of the Hospital is available.

These days the Hospital is mainly used for a few inpatients recovering from operations that have taken place at Derriford Hospital and clinics are also held on the premises including, Ear, Nose & Throat, Urology, Dermatology, Ophthalmic and Falls Clinic to name but a few, which saves people having to travel to Derriford or Liskeard Hospital. There is also a Minor Injuries Unit which is open from 8.00 a.m. until 10.00 p.m.

Our next fund raising event will be our Coffee Morning on Saturday 7th November 2009 which will be held at the Hospital from 10.00 a.m. until 12 noon. All are more than welcome! We look forward to seeing you.

RECYCLED SEAT UNVEILED AT WILDLIFE RESERVE'S AWARENESS DAY

Crowds of visitors were enthralled by a falconry display, intrigued by stalls promoting local crafts, and attracted by guided tours around Churchtown Farm when the Cornwall Wildlife Trust Nature Reserve celebrated this Summer's 'awareness day.'

"The aim of the day is to link the Cornwall Wildlife Trust with the town and to highlight the wonderful opportunities offered by Churchtown Farm and its walks," said Chairman of the Friends of Churchtown Farm, Bob Austin as he welcomed Deputy Mayor and Mayoress Councillors Adam and Merryn Killea together with Colin Breed MP and Mrs Janet Breed.

The Deputy Major was in particular invited to unveil a seat donated by Waitrose and set up at one of the reserve's finest viewpoints. The very substantial seat, guests were intrigued to note, was made up from recycled "Bags for Life".

Waitrose also took advantage of the awareness day to present the Friends of Churchtown Farm's chosen local charity voted for by Waitrose customers. Sophie Jarvis Waitrose Charities co-ordinator with her colleague

Bev O'Melia were present to hand over the cheque as part of its Community Matter programme - "Community matters is an initiative run by Waitrose throughout the country in support of local charities," explained Sophie Jarvis.

Cornwall Wildlife Trust also benefited by £725 as a result of an environmental campaign run by Saltash Environmental Action. Since the town introduced 'bags for life' shops have been encouraged to make a small charge for plastic bags. These monies have accumulated and the group decided to pass over a cheque for £725 at the Awareness Day for the benefit of the Trust that is anxious to preserve a variety of wildlife habitats throughout Cornwall.

Meanwhile, as the day progressed and early rain cleared away growing numbers of visitors came to enjoy the range of stalls and activities laid on by the Friends of Churchtown Farm and, through the scavenger hunts organised for Children and the walks organized for all ages came to appreciate the variety of habitats for a wide variety of plants and wildlife close to the town and available for all to enjoy.

WE ARE READ WORLDWIDE

As you read your Saltash and District Observer delivered to your door with our compliments you are joined by web readers throughout the globe.

To all of our readers who have got in touch to congratulate us on our Observer website a big thank you. We are delighted that so many of you appear to have shared our excitement.

So excited were we and so many hours did we put into our very special anniversary edition of the Observer in August that a certain misprint crept into our front page headline.

Fortunately, this was spotted by a member of our team before we went global so the error was not seen worldwide, only by our more eagle-eyed local readers whom we hope will forgive the hard-working and somewhat exhausted editor for letting this one slip through the net, though fortunately not slip through the web.

RAFFLING A BOAT HELPED KEEP LIFEBOATS AFLOAT

A life on the ocean waves, or at least on the Tamar's ripples, was promised to the winner of a raffle at Saltash Regatta in which a dinghy was the prize.

The Royal National Lifeboats Association's Saltash Branch was delighted at the donation of a dinky dinghy by Alan Harper of dinkydinghies.com, the Director of A Boat in a Box based at Gunnislake.

The draw took place on the evening of the Regatta in the Saltash Sailing club where the lucky winner Graham Parker was present and pleased to accept his prize. The RNLI was also pleased at the magnificent £286 raised through the draw and wishes to thank all who supported their lifesaving work by buying tickets and all who continue to support this worthwhile cause.

HOW MUCH TALENT DOES SALTASH HAVE?

"Lots of talent"- quotes Kaye Bonner and Liz Fedrick organisers of the first annual Saltash's Got Talent competition.

Kaye and Liz have been involved in the performing arts for most of their lives, and likewise in Festivals, theatre and TV. Their own children have had many opportunities to perform in their chosen disciplines.

Kaye and Liz got their heads together to encourage other people to perform, and to celebrate the gifts of their artistic talent.... Kaye said: "There has been so many talent competitions in the last few years on television; with X Factor, Britain & America's Got Talent, Pop Idol, Last Choir Standing - and the recent St Luke's Plymouth's Got Talent etc; that we thought Saltash has talent too! And we could bring such an event LIVE to Saltash"... Liz agreed and added: "It's also about having fun, sharing, supporting and giving opportunities to everyone of all ages and abilities that would like a special platform to perform in an enthusiastic and fun environment and we would welcome as many entries as possible".

Auditions will be held Saturday 17th October and Saturday 24th October at 1:30pm to

5pm, at St Nicholas and St Faith Church Rooms, Saltash. The fee will be £5 per individual entry. Finals are scheduled for December 4th or 5th - depending on availability of the judges (judges will be announced at a later date).

Saltash's Got Talent is in aid of the Mayor's Charity Fund (Help for Heroes) and the Sue Hooper Charitable Foundation (Reg Ch 1083647)

For further details and or an application form - please contact Kaye or Liz Kebonner@blueyonder.co.uk Phone 07727600815 / home 01752 240702 Fedrick5@blueyonder.co.uk Phone 07846160262

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GCSE Results Summer 2009

This year's GCSE results at saltash.net community school have set some excellent new records.

With more results due, at least 70% of the year 11 students achieved at 5 A*-C grades overall representing a fantastic 8% improvement upon the 2008 figures, which themselves were the school's best results to date!

From within this high performing group of students there were many outstanding individual successes, most notably Charlotte Cole who achieved 9 A*'s and 3A's in her GCSE subjects and an A grade in her AS Mathematics. 7 other students gained at least 8

A* and A grades each in their GCSEs: Joanne Veale, Laura Randall, Polly Boucherat, Holly Crook, Kristina Duncan, Oliver Landers and Robin Bailey.

In addition to the GCSE examination success, a significant number of students also achieved extremely well on their vocational and work related courses offered in collaboration with Cornwall College Saltash, Duchy College and City College.

Headteacher, Isobel Bryce, said, 'These excellent results are a just reward for such a hard working year group. They were a wonderful group of young people who were well supported by their teachers, support staff and families.'

A Level Results 2009

It has been another very successful year for 6th Form students at saltash.net community school. The school was very pleased that the A Level pass rate overall was 97% but especially delighted that 68% of all passes were achieved at the highest grades (A-C), an increase of 4% on last year's figures. 17 A Level subjects had 100% pass rates.

There were many notable individual successes, including students who across their subjects at AS and A Level achieved at least 3 A grades. These included Jenna Borlase, Sarah Cotton and Lori Uglov. Other very successful student performances came from Daryl Cole, Louise Fitzpatrick, Dan Humphreys and Joe Wrennall.

There were also some outstanding results at AS Level demonstrating that students have continued to build on their exceptional performances at GCSE level last year. Deserving of special praise are David Boulton, James McTavish and Ben O'Driscoll who all achieved 4 A grades each, Joe Ronayne, Yasmin Ross, Zoe Vincent and Kerri Walsh who achieved 3 A grades and a B grade each and Michael Boulton and Bethany Isaacs who secured 3 A grades and a C each.

Two of the school's registered blind students also performed extremely well at AS Level. Louis Jameson achieved A grades in Geography and Business Studies and Hannah Lindfield achieved an A grade in Art. These were remarkable results especially as the Head of Geography and Teaching Assistants had to find a range of inventive ways of demonstrating relief work on a map to a blind student. Strategies used included using clay to model the effects of glaciation!

Nick Scantlebury, Head of 6th Form, praised all of the students and staff for their hard work and commitment. "I am delighted that the vast majority of students will be able to progress in their chosen career path on the strength of their grades. As ever it is particularly pleasing to see the achievements of several students who have faced difficult personal circumstances over the past two years. It is also encouraging that the Year 12 results augur very well for Summer 2010."

Isobel Bryce, Headteacher, added, "I am very relieved that in such difficult national economic circumstances, our students are now well equipped and qualified to meet the demands that will face them in the future." She added, "I would also like to pay tribute to our excellent staff who do all they can to help and support our young people."

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ROTARY BEHIND THE SCENES

The public face of Saltash rotary club is a familiar one at local festivals fetes and regattas. Less known is the amount of hard work put in by local Rotarians in order to help improve quality of life for the needy in the community and raise funds for deserving local, national and international good causes. We are therefore, pleased and proud that your Saltash and District Observer has the opportunity to share with readers a look at Rotary behind the scenes and offer a background view as to what goes on in preparation for the numerous events that take place in the Rotary year. This month 'Rotary behind the scenes' starts with looking at a much anticipated annual appearance.

Santas Sleigh Rebuilt Ready For Seasonal Fun And Fundraising

Though few of us this Summer have had our minds on Christmas, Saltash Rotarian Frank Hopper and his Rotary club colleagues have been busy in Frank's workshop ensuring that our favourite Christmas visitor, Santa Claus himself, has a sleigh fitting for his visit to Saltash. For around twenty years excited children during the weeks before Christmas have been thrilled at the sight of Santa's Sleigh enlivened with Christmas music, and with Father Christmas himself dispensing bonhomie.

Though the sleigh has been cleaned and tidied up each year, the decades of hard service have taken their toll.

So this July the sleigh was taken into Frank's workshop for a total renovation. A gratefully appreciated grant from Saltash Town Council was added to Rotary funds to cover the costs of a near total rebuild due to be completed in plenty of time for Santa's seasonal appearance.

So when Santa's sleigh joins in leading the civic procession during the grand switching on of Christmas lights and Carol Service on November 28th, an enhanced and redecorated Rotary sleigh will once again play its part in this major community event. It will then once again be touring the streets of Saltash adding a festive feel to the town while its attendant Rotarians collect funds for a number of local good causes including Kidsout and the Saltash Live at Home Scheme, combining fun and giving for those in need in the true spirit of Christmas.

Look out for more "Rotary behind the scenes" feature in future editions of your "Saltash Observer".

Rotary is a service organisation open to men and women who wish to serve their community locally and internationally. Find us on www.saltashrotary.org.uk



Rotarians strip the old sleigh ready for refurbishing



The new sleigh will soon be ready for Christmas



Rotarian Frank Hopper cuts out the new Sleigh

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HELP CRIME RATES FALL - LOCK UP YOUR WINDOWS!

While crime figures still fall in the Saltash police area, the message from our local police is to keep doors and windows secured, especially during what hot weather is left to us.

Thieves are especially active when they know that local householders are leaving everything open on hot sunny days.

Two burglaries from dwellings were among the 103 crimes reported to Saltash Town Council's August meeting, down from 131 over the equivalent period the previous year.

The Council congratulated local police on helping to bring to an end anti-social behaviour based on certain rented property in the town. "A landlord who has tenants causing trouble in the community can seek police help," replied P.C. Simon Fletcher who confirmed that police have powers which can, and in this case did, assist in bringing peace to a neighbourhood.

FAIR PRAISE FOR NEW COMMITTEE

At the recent AGM of the Saltash May Fair the newly appointed Mayor of the town, Sue Hooper, congratulated the outgoing Committee for another excellent May Fair in 2009.

Led by Chair, Peter Stephens, the small group of volunteers had once again given the people of Saltash an excellent day of varied attraction aimed at all ages, and the gruelling Half Marathon attracted upwards of 200 entrants once again. The majority of the 2009 Committee was voted in for the 2010 May Fair, but a notable absentee will be Mrs. Jo Baskott, May Fair Secretary, who has contributed greatly to the success of the last two years.

No new members were voted on to the Committee, although no-one from the general public was present, which disappointed. Committee member Kevin Procter said: "It would have been encouraging to have gained some new volunteers at tonight's meeting, both for the Committee and for help on the day itself, but we have a number of months to pull things together and I'm sure that some new faces will come forward. As the event grows and becomes more popular, as it has over the last two years, we will need more volunteer help to make sure that the event is both successful and safe".

The May Fair website drew a large number of hits in 2009 and a list of Committee meeting dates for the coming year will be posted there shortly. However, anyone interested in helping May Fair 2010 in any capacity can contact Peter Stephens on 01752 846597.

NEW HOMES IN EDWARDIAN ROAD REJECTED

Two contemporary style three-storey houses in a residential road of Victorian and Edwardian homes would be out of keeping with the street scene. They would also add to congestion in what has become a busy service road to Fore Street and one much used by ambulances and other emergency vehicles.

These were among the arguments put forward in eleven letters of objection sent to the Town Council concerning a proposed development in a garden in Essa Road. It was pointed out that they were on the site of a hundred year old wall and that a local plan from 2005 strongly recommended that further development of the gardens in the town centre be avoided.

It was also said that the site was close to a blind corner, the road surface was already breaking up under the impact of increasing heavy traffic and that many ambulances use Essa Road to access the hospital and local residential homes.

"I have met with the Planning Officer who has confirmed there is a duty to facilitate development in existing built up areas close to shops and public transport, as against on green field sites," the applicant's agent Mr Peter Hunkin, told the Council in support of the application. The Highways Agency had confirmed, he stated, that "Essa Road is a quiet residential area," and added "Cars seldom park on the south side of the road." Local residents who packed the public seats vociferously disagreed.

CAR PARK IS DANGER TO DISABLED, RESIDENT CLAIMS

The car park in Jubilee Close is dangerous for disabled residents in its present state, one such disabled resident believes.

She has for some time been urging Saltash Town Council to seek that the potholes of this ill-lit area be filled in.

Councillor Bob Austin confirmed to the Town Council that he has taken photographs of the dent in the road and forwarded them to Cornwall Highways. However, he added that he doubted whether, for budgeting reasons, any action would be taken by Cornwall Council.

It was however, agreed that an addition light was needed half way along the path at Jubilee Close. The Town Council has requested that Cornwall Council Housing instal such a light and has promised to be responsible for future energy and routine maintenance costs.

A SEAT THAT TALKS

Following the installation of the 'dock dung seat' in Fore Street, made up of china fragments found in our fields and foreshores where they were deposited with 'dock dung', a 'talking seat' is the next innovation proposed for the street.

A request has been made by the Gateway Community Interest Company for permission to place a talking seat in the street and to connect it to a pole used for the town's festive lights. The Festive Lights Committee has confirmed its agreement to this.

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GATEWAY REPORTS YEAR OF SUCCESS IN LOCAL REGENERATION

A third successful year for the Saltash Gateway Community Interest Company, with membership doubled over the last year and a number of regeneration projects well under way, was reported at its annual general meeting.

The not-for-profit company owned by its members, with membership open to all, has as its central aim to promote and carry forward the PL12 area economic and community regeneration for the benefit of workers, residents and visitors in and around Saltash.

Among its major projects the potential development of Broadmoor Farm as a community campus or 'green and sustainable urban extension for Saltash' has hit some problems but is by no means stalled, the chairman reported.

A key element of the plan was provision of a green field site for a rebuilt Saltash Community School but as a replacement for Saltash School is no longer a high priority in the national 'Building schools for the future' programme "It seems to be a game of wait and see," the chairman reported.

Fore Street regeneration, while in its infancy in terms of changes on the ground, is showing signs of real promise following a grant by the South West Regional Development Agency to produce an action plan, now nearing a final draft and anticipated in the Autumn.

Other positive involvement from Gateway directors, includes the Saltash Health Strategy Group which seeks to increase health provision in Saltash and minimise the need for travel to out-patient clinics at Derriford Hospital.

A Sports and Leisure network for the Saltash area is also being promoted through the Caradon Sports

and Recreation Council. Saltash is already benefiting from its sculpture and art trail, the latest addition to which, the Fore Street 'Dock Dung Seat' was reported in the June 'Saltash Observer.' Another Gateway team is currently looking at tidying up the Saltash foreshore, perhaps with a boardwalk while local parishes are being canvassed as to their transport needs.

A notable success has been the Saltash Loyalty Card with over four hundred sold to date and an increasing number of business joining the scheme aimed to encourage local residents to use local business and keep money in Saltash.

"The Community interest company with your support, can make a difference", the Chairman concluded. "The key to this is making it more widely known to the Saltash and area community. We welcome more members - there is a quick and easy form to fill in on the CIC website at www.saltashgatewaycic.co.uk which also has details of the community action plan.

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WATERSIDE WAS BUZZING WITH POLICE ON MURDER MYSTERY NIGHT

An exciting murder mystery evening organised as part of the Ashtorre Brunel Bridge anniversary celebrations had an added surprise for the organisers as police arrived to deal with thousands of unexpected visitors buzzing with excitement.

The organisers were preparing for the event on a clear and cloudless afternoon when a small cloud of what organiser Lynn Marsh believed to be flying ants was spotted.

As she watched two passing police community support officers ordered that children eating ice cream on the balcony be brought in and the Ashtorre Centre be sealed off. A swarm of bees had landed on the gateway which leads from the Waterside to the Ashtorre Centre, on Ashtorre Rock. In no time the gateway was a heaving mass of bees six inches deep.

Full time police officers were soon on the scene, children were escorted out, a professional beekeeper called and the Centre sealed off with police tape.

"It was fascinating to watch the beekeeper smoke the swarm out," Lynn told the Observer. "He started by using a swan's feather to dislodge them."

By the time the would-be amateur sleuths arrived to enjoy the murder mystery nothing was left apart from a few rather confused bees seeking their queen. And also some genuine police "crime scene" tape to add authenticity to the intriguing but fictional crime about to take place.

NEW HOME WOULD HARM HISTORIC ESTATE

A new two-storey house would harm the character of a historic Victorian housing estate and endanger a wide variety of wildlife enjoying the extensive gardens in the Port View area of Saltash, local residents claimed.

These were among the many objections made in eight letters to the town council regarding plans for a new property to the rear of Higher Port View but with proposed access from a narrow section of Lower Port View.

A 'Historic Saltash Survey' of 2005 referred to the Victorian terrace behind which the house is planned as a 'historic plot'. As well as being out of character in the estate which dates from the 1850's, the house would be at the apex of two wildlife corridors utilised by foxes, badgers, hedgehogs, slowworms, frogs and toads, and would spoil the view over the town enjoyed from the river, local residents claimed. It would be the first such new property built in one of the local large gardens and could set an unfortunate precedent.

A local resident addressed the council opposing the plan. Nobody was present at the meeting to speak in favour of it. Other concerns included drainage and overlooking existing properties.

The council unanimously recommended refusal of the plans. Grounds for refusal included loss of amenity, being out of keeping with the street scene and character of the area, and traffic concerns. In addition the council called for reports on drainage and on wild life issues.

The recommendation for refusal would be passed on to the County's new "Planning East" Authority.

CROSS SAFELY AT BURRATON CROSS

A zebra crossing at Burraton Cross is under consideration by the town's Road Safety Committee as a means of showing that pedestrians have right of access across.

This follows concern expressed by the town council's Industry Commerce Transportation and Tourism Committee that there is now no local bus service along Callington Road between Burraton Cross and the roundabout by Lidl's store. While it was felt that residents could walk along the road to the nearest bus stop there was concern for their safety at Burraton.

Plymouth Citybus have changed the routing of their No. 26 service to assist with growing employment opportunities in the business park and the growth of passengers wishing to travel from Latchbrook to this area. Citybus consider that overall the alterations improve the level of service provided and have no plans to alter them to re-instate a service along this section of Callington Road.

MUSIC WHILE YOU SHOP

There was dancing in the streets of Saltash as Saturday shoppers were entertained by old-time dance music apparently emanating from an old gramophone placed on the pavement.

Meanwhile a Laurel and Hardy look-alike pair were inviting passers by, as well as some lady residents of St Anne's Residential Home who had accompanied them, to join in a sedate dance down Fore Street.

"Music in the Street" was the latest project from Saltash Environmental Action Group (SEA) aimed to make shopping in Saltash more fun. Its more serious objective is to encourage residents to shop in Saltash boosting the local, largely locally owned businesses and reducing the "carbon footprint" created by driving to the out of town chain stores. Local music promoter Peter Gunn had joined with Godfrey Allen to put on costume and promote the event.

It is hoped to make music a regular feature of shopping in Saltash and to provide a variety of styles of live as well as recorded music.

OPERATION SLOWDOWN

Drivers in Cornwall, intent on speeding through built up areas, will be asked to consider the consequences of their speeding in an attempt to make them change the way they think, as well as the way they drive.

In 2008, 34 people were killed on Cornwall's roads, and 175 seriously injured in road collisions. Drivers caught speeding in different locations across the county this year are being targeted by Operation Slowdown, a joint initiative between Cornwall Council (CC) Road Safety Unit, Devon and Cornwall Constabulary and the Safety Camera Partnership. During 2009, 10 Operation Slowdowns will be taken to different locations in Cornwall to catch motorists who ignore speed restrictions.

Speeding vehicles will be pulled over by the police and the drivers given the choice of the usual fine and penalty points on their licence, or spending 15 minutes at a nearby location where they will be given an educational session on the consequences of speeding. Professionals from the CC Road Safety Unit, and Devon and Cornwall Constabulary will be asking drivers to consider why they speed, especially in urban areas where pedestrians and children

in particular, are vulnerable on the roads.

Morwenna Rogers, Project Co-ordinator says "Speed is by far the biggest killer on our roads today. Most people tend to think of dangerous speed in terms of someone hurtling up the dual carriageway but in fact the speeding driver most likely to cause death and injury is the driver who drives at 40mph through a 30mph zone. Cars don't kill people, careless and thoughtless drivers do."

Morwenna continues "The consequences of speeding, and possibly being involved in a collision, have far reaching consequences on the driver's family, friends, and the community at large. We ask that people drive responsibly and think of everyone else who will be affected by their actions."

Speeding through towns and villages is as unsocial as drinking and driving, and speeding drivers not only put themselves at risk but they also expose the communities they drive through to real danger.

MPC Mark Leath, Devon and Cornwall Constabulary Road Casualty Reduction Officer, comments "Speeding is anti-social. The sooner more motorists realise that and slow down to an appropriate speed, the safer our roads will be."

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As we launch our anniversary year charity fund (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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