

SALTASH AND DISTRICT OBSERVER

Your only truly "local" newspaper ...

September 2016 - Issue 294

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Carkeel Congestion Urgent Action Needed

Carkeel roundabout is increasingly frequently a solid jam of slow or motionless traffic leading to road rage incidents and being impassable to emergency vehicles. Saltash Town Councillor and Carkeel resident John Brady called on the council for urgent action. Ambulances called out on a 'shout' are unable to proceed through to an emergency so endangering lives. Friday evenings are especially busy but complete jams are common on any day, especially during the summer.

The main problem is that traffic is unable to continue Westward where drivers, who may have travelled from London, the Midlands or the North. Councillor David Yates advised that there appears no solution to this as Highways England have confirmed that they have no plans to dual the road between Carkeel and Trerulefoot in the foreseeable future.

duelling the road prepared when Caradon Council was in existence but this was shelved.

Plans to enlarge the roundabout and install 'smart' traffic lights should be put into effect shortly with work expected to start in the autumn. Meanwhile councillors agreed that yellow hatching close to the Texaco filling station should at least help emergency vehicles to pass through.

There was a plan for

Quirky Art and Crafty Shops Pop Up in Saltash



Fore Street shoppers can now enjoy browsing and admiring a wide variety of individualist hand crafted products from fifteen or so local artists and craftsmen who have come together to exhibit and sell their wares in the town centre.

A first for Saltash, the Saltash Pop Up at 5 Fore Street is at the foot of the street adjacent to the main shopping area and the historic Lower Fore Street. The initiative is the brainchild of Community Enterprise PL12 and director Peter Ryland says 'This idea has been brought forward as a means of providing another range of retail activity in the town centre'. It is led by local residents Julie Angel and Jo Baskott and Jo adds 'We felt that we had the opportunity to give talented local crafters and artists a chance to sell their products in their local High Street'.

The quirky and colourful shop, packed with a wide variety of lovely vintage and

interesting products not previously available in Fore Street was officially opened by Mayor Councillor Hilary Frank with her consort Sho and young daughter who proved to be the first customer.

'We have worked really hard to get here and have a lovely team of people', Jo Baskott told the assembled crowd. 'Please spread the word around to shop locally and support local enterprise'.

On cutting the opening ribbon the Mayor added 'Fore Street is at the heart of the town and the Town Council is eager to help do anything to enhance it. Congratulations to all involved in putting the Pop

Up micro-businesses together, it has been a long journey'.

Station Buildings Negotiations Under Way

The current owners of the dilapidated station buildings which, as the Saltash Observer reported last month, the Town Council wishes to purchase for the town, are willing to consider a sale.

The valuers appointed by the Town Council have been advised that the owner is prepared to enter into negotiation dependent upon the sum being offered.

Meanwhile the town council is commencing proceedings to seek a compulsory purchase order for the building to proceed if negotiations for a purchase break down.

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Colourful Display for Churchtown Butterfly Spotters

Of the nineteen species of British butterflies observed on the Churchtown Farm nature reserve, many were noted and identified during an August butterfly walk organised and led by the Friends of Churchtown Farm.

Around a dozen adults and children learned how to distinguish the speckled wood from the similar gatekeeper. The colourful butterfly world was represented by the clouded yellow, the red admiral, the small copper and the common blue, while large white and green veined whites flew in abundance. The marbled whites which had adorned several creekside fields had already flown as had the ringlets, but there were plenty left as budding lepidopterists of all ages focused on the flower filled meadows and looked up to the trees seeking to spot the prevalent but seldom seen purple emperors, that inhabit the tree canopy.

The walk was one of the monthly event organised through the year by the Friends of Churchtown Farm which are free to members and at a small charge to all other visitors.

This is the time of year when there is no formal Cornwall Council business and we idle Councillors spend our time basking idly in the sun – not strictly true, as Planning East and Miscellaneous Licencing committees still take place and there is not much sun! This month I want to discuss specifically issues relating to the A38 and the consequences of Brexit on some EU funding programmes.

All South East Cornwall councillors are united in the view that the greatest obstacle to economic growth in the area is the state of the A38 trunk road from Carkeel to Bodmin, which is simply not fit for purpose. At present, Highways England (formerly Highways Agency) has no plans for any improvement schemes whatsoever in the five year programmes upto 2019.

With that background, three local Councillors (myself, Armand Toms from Looe and Andrew Long from Callington) were invited by MP Sheryll Murray to a meeting to lobby Transport Minister Patrick McLoughlin at Westminster early in July. We prepared a good deal of evidence for him, including details of no less than 12 dangerous locations on the A38 between Carkeel and Carminow Cross, and statistics and locations of

occasions when road traffic accidents have forced the closure of this only route to the West.

Briefly, between 2011 and 2016, the road was closed a minimum of 5 and a maximum of 13 days per year. This year is already shaping up badly, with two A38 fatal accidents in the last fortnight. Each closure usually for a minimum of 4 hours, is estimated to cost the Cornish economy £40,000.

The meeting at Westminster itself was a total waste of time I'm sorry to say. The Transport Minister was late and gave us only half an hour of his time, and that was monopolised by our MP just lobbying for the Menheniot junction. We had no chance to even present or discuss our prepared evidence at all. And to add to the frustration, the following day McLoughlin was involved in Theresa May's first Cabinet Reshuffle, and is no longer Transport Minister!

I also want to talk about some EU funding programmes that are due to South East Cornwall, which for EU purposes extends from Saltash and Torpoint to St Austell and the Clay Country, an area of 150,000+.

I sit on the SE Local Action Group (LAG) as one of three Cornwall Councillors for the LEADER EU Funding, worth £2.1 million in agricultural



CORNWALL COUNCIL



and our PL12 community

For Observer readers

From Councillor Joe Ellison

grants – the others are Armand Toms from Looe and Andrew Long from Callington. The other members are voluntary groups and farming related groups. This scheme is now in full operation and grants up to £35k can be given to increase farm productivity or support micro businesses, rural tourism or cultural/heritage projects or forestry projects. Typical grants go to farm shops or new plant and machinery.

The bad news is that the grants are monitored by DEFRA and they have determined that the Saltash area is "urban" and not "rural", and therefore ineligible for EU LEADER grants.

The other stream of EU funding, which is still at the application stage, is CLLD (Community Led Local Development) which is administered by the DCLG (Department of Communities and Local Government). It is worth £7.3 million up to 2020, and is to be focussed upon the seven areas of SE Cornwall that rank worst in

the Index of Multiple Deprivation. These include Torpoint, Callington, St Austell and the Clay Country – and Saltash!!

Projects can be proposed to boost local economies and reduce dependency on Plymouth, and in Saltash, we hope to propose a scheme to re-develop the Network Rail sheds on Ashtorr Wharf for marine use and art studios and craft workshops.

The CLLD Local Action Group is currently forming to submit a full proposal to DCLG this Autumn and is looking for additional members connected with the business and voluntary community as apposed to farming interests, and if anyone from Saltash is interested in joining me, please contact me – one afternoon meeting per month at Liskeard.

Please forgive the endless list of acronyms – Cllr Killea would be in his element! The problem is that from previous experience over the eight years of European funding, you have to be in it to win it...

NEWS UPDATE
Fresh Fruit and Veg Stall on Fore Street, locally sourced where we can!
Thursday - Friday - Saturday
 9am till 3.30pm
 Now staffed by volunteers
All profits ploughed back into our community projects

Calling all Allotment Holders & Veggie Growers
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Bring us your surplus produce - let others enjoy it
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community enterprises

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Charity Event

Fri 30th Sept – 10am -12noon
Macmillan Coffee Morning
 Tea, Coffee & Cakes
All proceeds to Macmillan Cancer Support
 Everyone welcome

The Bullers Arms 16th Century Traditional Cornish Pub
 Located in the small village of Landrake

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Landlady Amy & the team offer you a warm welcome, together with freshly home cooked food provided by the experienced and professional kitchen team

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 Our Speciality - **Sunday lunch 12 – 3pm**

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Family Occasions & Events
 Outside catering also available upon request

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Christmas 2016 - A Set Menu

Available throughout December for parties of 4 or more

What's on

Monthly quiz night – Cash prizes and bonus picture round
 Next date – **Tuesday 4th October**

Old & Proud lunches from £6 every Wednesday lunchtime
Fish & Chip shop Friday 5pm -9pm Eat in or takeaway
Traditional Sunday lunch 12 -3pm

Booking strongly advisable to avoid disappointment

Live music & events every month – ALL FREE!!

Tues 6th Sept: Quiz night 8.30pm
Fri 30th Sept: Russell Sinclair 9pm

Coming Up...

Sat 29th Oct: Halloween Party 9pm

Tues 11th Oct: – Clairvoyance eve with Mark Hartshorn
 A chance to hear from loved ones who've passed
Tickets £10 including food 8.30 food for 9pm start

Sat 5th Nov: Fireworks Night – Chilli, Hotdogs & Burgers

FREE Sparklers for the kids & **Geat Firework Display** (in the top garden from 5pm)

Fri 11th Nov: The Kingstons – Stompin Ska Band

Tues 15th Nov: Psychic investigation eve with Mark Hartshorn

Find out which locals still visit the pub and who is the 6ft shadow behind the bar!

Tickets £10 including food 7.30pm food for 8pm start

Fri 23rd Dec: The Hungry Bears from 9pm

Pub opening hours throughout September

Mon - Thurs 12 - 11pm - Fri & Sat 12 - 12am
 Sunday 12 - 10.30pm

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Chamber Chairman Peter Ryland Keeping us Updated...

People often say to me that there is "nothing much happening in South East Cornwall", how wrong they are. Last month I attended the South East Cornwall Workshop. There were representatives from Saltash, Looe, Torpoint and Liskeard both at Town and County Council level but also from the private sector (Chambers and private business). There were five specific areas under discussion workspace/employment land, skills, tourism, A38 and better links for Plymouth.

Under workspace/employment land we discussed the need to ensure that land allocated for such use is subsequently used for it and that units to be built thereon suit the requirements that occupiers require.

However, one of the worries for the area is the lack of a skilled workforce and looking at ways to ensure that skill levels are improved.

We recognised that tourism is important to the local economy but we need to find ways to extend the tourism season and the heritage of the area was seen as means to do so. We do not have the major attractions of other areas of Cornwall, Tate Cornwall in St. Ives and Eden Project are good examples, but we do have a strong heritage and should use this to attract tourists at, otherwise, less popular times of the year.

It was recognised that Plymouth is the main player with respect to employment and we looked at ways to try and have stronger links therewith so that we can benefit from the potential opportunities that Plymouth creates.

Since 1978, at least, the dualling of the A38 between Saltash and Trerulefoot has been under discussion and a recent delegation to the Department of Transport re-

highlighted this issue. But there are other concerns namely the poor junctions onto the A38 at Menheniot, Lean Quarry and Bodmin Parkway for example. The other issue is the chaos created in country roads when accidents occur as there are no easy diversions

All delegates were hopeful that we can achieve some short term fixes in the various areas under discussion but more importantly it was felt that by pursuing matters as South East Cornwall rather than the individual communities therein we could achieve long term goals. This could have been another talking shop but there was emphatic belief that improvements can be made.

Press Secretaries & Correspondents

Email your news to...
maryecrawford@hotmail.com

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Mob: 07971 484872

In 2014, Cornwall Council took the decision that it would no longer fund open access youth work. It was not the only local authority to cut funding for youth work: nationwide, a total of £60m in funding for youth services has been lost since 2012. The grim reality is that, along with other local authorities across the country, Cornwall Council is battling the impact of austerity and the significant cuts in funding being handed down from central government.

No - Cornwall Council was not the only authority to have cut funding to youth work, but that didn't make the bitter pill any easier to swallow. Last year, Saltash Town Council tried to ease the situation by setting up a fund of £40,000 for open access youth work and outreach work to support the young people within our town. We are nearing the end of that tranche of funding, and reports from The Core (formerly K3), Groundwork and Livewire (the 3 recipients) say the money has made a big difference, but personally I feel that the only reason that local youth projects have been able to carry on with their vital work is because of the dedication, passion and vision of their leaders and volunteers. So before giving you a few examples of how the funding has been used, I would just like to say how grateful Saltash Town Council is to all those involved in bolstering the wellbeing of young people in our town - thanks to the leaders and volunteers in the Girlguiding and Scouting

Mayoral Matters...

movements, cadets, sports clubs, schools and churches as well as the youth projects.

So, the Town Council funding has enabled the team at The Core to offer, for example, a weekly junior club for 11-14 year olds, a weekly senior club for 14-18 years olds, awareness programmes about bullying, drugs and sexual health as well as support for the TIC TAC lunchtime sessions at Saltash.net. Over at Livewire, the funding from the Town Council has helped the team offer open access sessions, deliver a project for NEETs, offer one-to-one support work for young people referred by social workers from Cornwall's CHIN team, and deliver awareness programmes about internet safety, drugs, racism and dealing with stress. In both youth projects, the funding from the Saltash Town Council has helped to unlock funding from other organisations.

It is harder to measure the impact the funding has had on the self-esteem of young people, but last month I went along to the Livewire AGM as well as the Open Day and Fun Run held at The Core, and meeting young people on these occasions I was forcibly struck by the positive impact the

youth projects are having. The young people there were clearly feeling more confident about their future. At The Core, I was also forcibly struck by the mayoral chain of office when I joined in the warm-up exercises before the Fun Run, but that's another story...

I'm mentioning all this now for two reasons: one is so that you can join me in celebrating the positive outcomes these projects are delivering for our young people; the other is because Saltash Town Council has decided to set up another fund of £40,000 for the provision of youth work services from September this year. Do you know an organisation that could hold outreach sessions? Or could support young people in need of help? Then get that organisation to contact the Guildhall for more details about the funding on offer. The details are also available on the Saltash Town Council website: www.saltash.gov.uk. The deadline for submitting bid proposals is noon on Monday 5th September.

Let me finish with the wise words of that wise fellow, Winston Churchill, who said: "There is no finer investment for any community than putting milk in to babies." *Cllr Hilary Frank
Town Mayor*

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Saturday 10th September

Walk - Princetown to Dousland

9.30am - £4.00

Tuesday 13th September

Widcombe Fair

10.00am - £13.50

Thursday 15th September

Antiques Roadshow at Trelassick

9am - £14.00

Thursday 22nd September

St Ives & Lelant

10.00am - £12.00

Saturday 24th September

Cotehele Annual Apple Day

10.00am £4.00 + Entry

Saturday 1st October

Eden Beer Festival

17.00pm £7.00 + Entry (£12.50)

Wednesday 5th October

Callington Honey Fair

10am £4.00

Wednesday 12th October

Tavistock Goose Fayre

09.00am £5.50

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September 16

SAT 6TH THE FRAME

Sat 13th Bob South (Bar)

Sun 14th Karaoke (Bar)

Sat 20th Go Tell Alice (Bar)

Sat 27th Chris Banderos (Bar)

Sun 28th Ronnie Del Rio 5-8pm

then karaoke 8-close (Bar)

SUN 28TH Childrens Fun Day (Main Hall)

October 16

Sat 3rd The Line Up (Bar)

Sat 10th Wendellas (Bar)

Sun 11th Karaoke (Bar)

Sat 17th Clay (Bar)

Sat 24th Ophelia Devon (Bar)

Sun 25th Karaoke (Bar)

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The Cardinals Hatt

*Catering for the widest possible clientele...
offering a variety of quality culinary experiences*



A newly built team of professional chefs and assistants with imaginative and exciting innovations for an ever changing menu will herald in a new era of catering at one of the leading dining venues in the area. Manager Martin Watson has returned to the 'Cardinal's Hatt' at the request of his old friend owner David Venables with the aim of ensuring that the well established hostelry overlooking the Tamar Valley two miles from the town retains its reputation as a top notch venue for dining, as well as being regionally renowned for welcoming functions of every size and description.

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Callington Rd Hatt Saltash PL12 6PJ

Having been in the catering industry since his mid teens Martin, since qualifying at Cheltenham catering college, trained at St. Pierre Golf and Country Club at Chepstow, Britain's first luxury golf and country club hosting international golf tournaments and moved on to establish, and sometimes to re-establish a number of other golf and country clubs as manager or consultant. He is no stranger to this area having been at St. Mellion when it was establishing itself, serving there as food and beverage manager and subsequently general manager and managing director. He also spent twelve years running a major hotel in North Cornwall as chef manager and helped to build up a bistro also in North Cornwall. Delighted to be back in South East Cornwall, where he was previously Chairman and President of Saltash Round Table, Martin is now hoping while here to make contact with former members and, perhaps, revive old friendships in the format of a Saltash 61 club – former Round Tablers are welcome to contact him.

However his main purpose in returning is to support David is to realise the vision in restructuring the 'Cardinal's Hatt' to cater for the widest possible clientele and to offer them a variety of quality culinary experiences.

The whole hub of a business such as 'The Cardinal's Hatt, Martin firmly believes is in the kitchen and as well as stripping out the substantial kitchen area and re-equipping it with all that is needed to create the finest of foods, Martin has been busy building his team. He is delighted to have been able to appoint a head chef who shares his vision of culinary perfection, together with a fully qualified and supportive team.

Manager Martin and owner David are keen to maintain their roles as very

much an active and supportive part of the local community – indeed David and his business partner have recently saved Plymouth Albion Rugby Club from insolvency and are busy restructuring it on a sound financial basis. In the same spirit they are eager to offer employment and career opportunities to local young people. Already a major local employer, the 'Cardinal's Hatt' is now also offering apprenticeships to those interested in qualifying for a catering career. These apprentices will also have the opportunity of experiencing catering at the Plymouth Albion club.

Fine dining, lunchtime and evening, can be enjoyed in the separate and family friendly dining room, while a wide range of bar meals, prepared by the same professional team, can be taken with a drink in the bar area or, if preferred, on the outside terrace with fine views over the Tamar Valley beyond.

A part of the substantial bar area, however, will be reserved for those who wish simply to relax over a pint of good local ale or other drink from the well stocked bar.

A Professional Barista
A new facility for which Martin believes there is a demand will be a separate coffee lounge, with outside tables, a professional barista being on hand to serve a

variety of coffees and teas with savoury and sweet snacks to passing travellers as well as local residents seeking a pleasant place to relax with family or friends during the daytime.

During the evening this area will serve as an annexe to the substantial function room for which functions manager Vanessa is taking a variety of bookings ranging from weddings, Christenings and anniversaries, to business meetings and other such events. The function suite can cater for up to 120-seated diners or 180 for a buffet reception. Visitors from out of town can be accommodated in the adjacent rooms at the rear of the 'Cardinal's Hatt', peacefully away from the sound of the road.

With his management team, a bar and restaurant manager Ben, working alongside Vanessa as functions manager and Liz supervising accommodation, Martin now looks forward, as Autumn approaches and the Christmas and New Year beyond, to proving to customers from Saltash and beyond that the 'Cardinal's Hatt' now offers an unmatched venue for fine dining, light snacks in the bar area and outside, for sampling the finest of ales, and as a venue to accommodate each and every social and business function.



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Callington Rd Hatt Saltash PL12 6PJ

Over a Century of Sporting History Brought from the Brink

When a well loved and nationally renowned regional rugby club appeared about to fold, ending over a century of sporting history, local businessman David Venables, owner of Saltash's 'Cardinal's Hatt', was delighted to be able to bring it from the brink and to offer the Club a viable future on and off the playing field.

Plymouth Albion RFC had enjoyed a tumultuous history including highlighted sporting successes but earlier this year was on the edge of being taken into administration to the dismay of its many fans, some of whom had been life long supporters of the club.

Since David with his business partner stepped in at the last minute with a financial rescue he has involved himself increasingly with the club's premises at the Brickfields, Plymouth. Utilising his experience of building up the 'Cardinal's Hatt' as a well-established and popular dining venue he has in particular become heavily involved in providing improved catering facilities there.

'Legend of Albion'

In doing so he has taken care of and rewarded regular hard core supporters as well as encouraged a new customer base to attend the club for a full match day experience of enjoying good class sport and first class dining and drinking. In creating new kitchens he has opened up new opportunities to extend the choice of pre and post match meals and snacks to cater for every taste and for family members of all ages. And, working with well-known local real ale companies the Dartmoor Brewery of Princetown, brewers of 'Jail Ale' and 'Legend', he has enabled the club to market a new brew 'Legend of Albion', popular with players and the increasing band of supporters who come for the rugby but stay on to enjoy the social scene. By building on this social scene, David hopes that Plymouth Albion's future on and off the rugby field will be assured.

Christmas 2016 at

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*See The Observer for Menus & more information
October/November issues*

Saltash Will Pay for The Piper

A kilt in Cornish tartan is to be provided for a Town Piper who will then continue to play the bagpipes free of charge at town events.

A resident of Saltash skilled on the bagpipes led the Mayoral procession at this year's Mayor choosing, featured in last year's Christmas festival and played the lament at a service earlier this year to commemorate the Saltash firemen killed in the Plymouth blitz of World War II.

Saltash is fortunate to have his musical talent, provided

free of charge, Town Councillors were told, since the normal charge to play at an event would be £120.

They agreed therefore that upon his promise to continue to offer his services freely over the next few years, the town would pay out to have him suitably kitted out in a Cornish Kilt at a cost of £420 from the town's general reserves.

Great British Country Event

Miss Ivy Events is proud to present 'The Great British Country Event', our much anticipated second event of 2016 at the stunning Cotehele on 24th and 25th September from 10.30 - 16.30.

The event includes Cotehele's Apple Day and is set to be a weekend packed full of fun for all ages. Including over 50 artisan, gift and food exhibitors, live entertainment, displays, games and lots more!

Saturday's entertainment consists of music from local folk duo MacQuarrie and Toms, a performance by Young Stagers, and an amazing falconry display. Orchard Studios will also be running workshops throughout the day, including making lavender ladies, corn dollies and jewelled mosaics.

Cotehele will be running talks and demonstrations on 'The Big Squeeze' in the Victorian cider press. There will be a kids' fruit juice lab, a display of pruning and apple training, information about Tamar valley apple varieties, fun apple bobbing, and an Orchard tour.

On Sunday, we will be joined by Southern Belle, along with very talented Tudor dancers, Mad Hatters Studio will be running a button and paper corsage workshop and two upcycled paper bead workshops, plus, Dot Teas will be showing us all how to decorate delicious cupcakes that will have everyone's mouth watering!

To top it all off, there will be refreshments available throughout the weekend and parking onsite is free.

*Please note, dogs are not allowed into the event.

Derriford Bus Service Seems Likely

There is an evident demand for a direct bus service between Saltash and Derriford hospital, the town's 'Community Enterprises PL12' organisation has confirmed. It is now hoped that such a service will be established in October with up to five return journeys on weekdays, and three at weekends.

A number of Saltash residents also hope for the service to be extended to cover the industrial estates around Estover where many of them work. The proposed route of the service has yet to be confirmed.

This will follow the acquisitions of a second minibus by Community Enterprises PL12, enabling

one to be employed full time on the service while the other continues to be available for hire by local groups as well as the popular outings currently being organised to various venues and events.

The service is dependent upon a business plan being evolved. If it is to go ahead timetables should be made available in late September.

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Youth Work in Saltash 2016/17

Saltash Town Council has budgeted £40,000 for the provision of youth work services in Saltash for the period September 2016 to August 2017. The Town Council is inviting proposals from suitable organisations for the partial or whole delivery of this service. Each organisation commissioned will be expected to work in partnership with other agencies including Saltash.net, Cornwall College, Police, Housing (inc ASB officer), CAMHS, Youth Offending Team, Targeted Youth Support and Saltash Youth Council.

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Many people have contacted me about the continuation of EU funding for Cornwall and Agriculture after the democratic decision to leave in the Referendum. The Chancellor of the Exchequer, Philip Hammond has given assurances saying, "The UK will continue to have all of the rights, obligations and benefits that membership brings, including receiving European funding, up until the point we leave the EU. We recognise that many organisations across the UK which are in receipt of EU funding, or expect to start receiving funding, want reassurance about the flow of funding they will receive. That is why I am confirming that structural and investment funds projects signed before the Autumn Statement and Horizon research funding granted before we leave the EU will be guaranteed by the Treasury after we leave. The government will also match the current level of

agricultural funding until 2020, providing certainty to our agricultural community, which play a vital role in our country. We are determined to ensure that people have stability and certainty in the period leading up to our departure from the EU and that we use the opportunities that departure presents to determine our own priorities." As the PPS to Andrea Leadsom I am pleased that she has said "This guarantee of funding is excellent news for our farmers and our environment. It means farmers are assured of current levels of funding until 2020 and any agri-environment schemes agreed before the Autumn Statement will be fully funded - even when these projects continue beyond the UK's departure from the EU." This confirms that this Conservative Government under Prime Minister Theresa May will continue to support the Rural Communities and Cornwall. I was pleased to catch up

SHERYLL MURRAY MP WRITES...



with my predecessor, Sir Robert Hicks, with my colleague from across the Tamar Oliver Colville MP. I always enjoy my lunch with Robert each Summer and it is always useful to get his insight into how he feels things are going both locally and nationally. I was also pleased to be able to drop into the Saltash Museum to see their exhibition on the story of retail in Fore Street. It was clear that a lot of research had clearly be done and it brought back many of my own memories of Saltash many years ago. I also picked a book up covering the topic by local historian Bruce Hunt from the museum shop which interestingly went into more detail.

I had a fantastic breakfast at St Nicholas & St Faith Church, which they do 10am to 2pm each Saturday in August, before dropping into the Saltash Chronicles Embroidery Project at Saltash Baptist Church in Culver Road. This is Saltash's very own Bayeux Tapestry depicting scenes of Saltash from the stone age up to the present day. The three year project has involved over 60 local artists and is 100 feet long consisting of 27 individual panels stitched together. The project involved local volunteers, historians, artists, embroiderers, school children and youth groups. The work is of great detail and is definitely worth seeing.

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Tales That Got Away...

As promised during the twenty fifth year of bringing you tales of Saltash, we are also looking back at some of the intriguing stories that have never quite made it to our pages.

When we attended the grand re-opening of the Belle Vue Rd premises that are now the home of our Community Interest Company, we came upon a fascinating little local tale that we thought we ought to share.

**The Belle Vue Road Blitz
and A True Life Aga Saga**

The re-opening of the Belle Vue Road premises which are now a home for the town's Community Interest Company the Citizens Advice Bureau, Food Bank, and various other local public and commercial enterprises brought back memories to Michael Lavelle who was born and brought up in the premises.

His father had the house and his adjacent dental surgery built in the 1930's but the house was short-lived. On 28th April 1941 Saltash was a target for the Luftwaffe and Michael well remembers being in the house as it came crashing down in flames before his older brother, then aged just 15, drove his mother and siblings to Nottor Bridge, one of the several temporary homes they would inhabit before the house was rebuilt in 1947.

The family kept pigs, chickens and cows in the extensive garden now covered by a car park. A photograph shows hens pecking over the ruins and Michael well remembers one of his childhood chores as driving the two small but sturdy Kerry cows down Fore Street and through the side gate into the back garden.

One of his most vivid early memories however is of the huge Aga oven into which his mother placed the porridge each evening to simmer gently ready for the next morning's breakfast.

As the roof and walls crashed down in flames during the raid in 1941 the Aga dropped through the floor into the basement. There it stood, covered in rubble until the rebuilding in 1947, when it was uncovered, opened and the porridge still stood moist and apparently edible.

The Lavelles' did not risk sampling the six year old porridge but did inform the AGA manufacturers who donated to them a new AGA cooker free of charge for their post-war porridge.

Essa Files**Coming to us from New Zealand**

I wrote my last column from Australia and although I'm now back in Cornwall, in between I had ten days exploring New Zealand. Those of you who have seen the 'Lords of the Rings' films will be very familiar with its huge scenic charms, which are far from its only appeal. During my time there I got to see a huge geyser erupt right in front of me, took a train journey across the (Southern) Alps, stepped off a tall building (Auckland 'Sky Jump' if you want to look it up), and got elected as a 'Chief' for a visit to a Maori Village.

In addition I went to a lot of museums. I always like learning new things and find that I discover far more about the history and culture of a new country by pottering around their museums than I ever could from a guide book. In New Zealand I found three particularly common themes in their museums - in reverse order earthquakes; Maori history & culture; and Gallipoli.

As many of you will know the Gallipoli campaign of 1915 was one of the First World War's many unmitigated military disasters. Intended to give a quick boost to the Allied cause it turned into eight months of bloody fighting leaving about 120,000 dead and nothing actually changed: the only aspect of it that was militarily successful was the evacuation.

I visited at three major Gallipoli exhibitions in New Zealand and one in Australia; and went to the Last Post ceremony at both national war memorials. Although 'only' 3,000 of the dead was New Zealanders the psychological impact on both

New Zealand and Australia (just under 9,000 dead) was huge, since the Australia and New Zealand Army Corps, the famous ANZACs, were the heart of the fighting. Both countries lost more men on the Somme, but it is Gallipoli that really sticks in their national consciousness - perhaps because it came first, perhaps because it was so ultimately pointless.

All of which puts two particularly important points in my head which apply to Saltash as much as to Australia and New Zealand. Firstly, the critical importance of remembering the sacrifices made, especially during this centenary period but also beyond as fewer and fewer veterans of the second world war survive to remind us themselves. Secondly the fundamental important of promoting peace in all that we do - in how we approach other countries and in how we approach each other, to reduce the chances that such pointless wholesale slaughter will ever happen again.

By Adam Killeya

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Students Celebrate Success at saltash.net

While most students were settling to study for summer's internal and external exams, some saltash.net students were already achieving notable successes in various fields during the summer term. A 17 year old boy who had been working with students from other schools making vibrating insoles for blind and visually impaired persons, and who had created a website and participated in a 'purchasing challenge', concluded his 'efforts' appearing before a Dragons' Den style panel to promote himself. This resulted in Kieran Marley being named as 'Most employable 17 year old in the Plymouth area' in the city's 'You're Hired' contest.

Meanwhile, year 12 student, Michael Spencer, travelled to Exeter University where he was presented with an Ogden School's Physicist of the Year Award for his fantastic progress, hard work and achievements in A level Physics.

The outstanding successes of individual students matched by the school's overall examination achievements, are resulting in increasing applications for places at Saltash.net from outside as well as within the school's catchment area.

In order to keep parents fully briefed as to what the school has to offer those coming up to the secondary school or those considering entering the sixth form, a number of information events are organised throughout the year.

Summer Concludes Year of Sports Success at saltash.net

Summer term at saltash.net school means sports and the opportunity to enjoy getting out and about as a break from study leading to the important examinations as the term's end. There has been much to celebrate on the sporting field over the last season and we have previously reported upon the outstanding debut season for the year seven boys' football team. We feel sure that their county final defeat during extra time will spur them on to further success as they proceed up the school, and to encourage the year groups that follow on. The year seven girls' football team also will inspire other year groups, as they continue their meteoric career, remaining unbeaten, so far.

The girls have also shown great enthusiasm in netball clubs with teaching staff and outside coaches being impressed at their eagerness and skill. Year seven girls have also been attending athletic clubs in massive numbers.

Athletics comes to the fore in the summer term and 46 students attended a Super 8

event at Plymouth's Brickfields, while boys' teams from years 7 and 10 qualified to represent East Cornwall at the county school games.

This being an Olympic year there was great enthusiasm for the annual sports day with each student being encouraged to get involved, and participation really can be

celebrated. Enthusiasm is encouraged through the year by awards for 'sporting achievement of the month' to recognise such varied activities as swimming, football, athletics, ice-skating, rugby and diving, while a year 13 student, David Wilks, achieved national acclaim as Karate Champion.

With football training sessions from a Plymouth Argyle trainer and player, an Olympic athlete working with students on a 'Sky Sports Living for Sport' project, and a visit to the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park for year 9, 10 and 12 students, every opportunity continues to be offered for each student to achieve their very best in whatever activity they wish to excel.

New Head well Schooled in saltash.net's Principles



While change is clearly coming to saltash.net community school with the retirement at Christmas of headteacher Mrs Isobel Bryce, staff students and parents are relieved to know that the existing ethos of the high ranking school will be maintained with her replacement.

From a number of highly qualified and experienced applicants for the prestigious post, those interviewing were unanimous in their decision to appoint the school's current assistant head teacher Ms Kate Littledeyke, to assume the headship as of the new term next January.

The governors are all confident that, given her experience as deputy head teacher for five years at similar secondary school in Reading, and her current involvement in Saltash as responsible for the development of teaching and learning, Ms Littledeyke will be ideal to continue the work of Mrs Bryce and maintain her high standards of academic excellence within a welcoming and caring environment. 'We are absolutely confident that she will continue to lead the school on very successfully in the next stage of its journey and give 100% commitment to all students, staff, parents, governors and the local community', Chair of the Trust Board Kate Waghorn assured all parents.

Mrs Waghorn also thanked all members of the school and local community who had helped with the interviewing process, especially the students of the School Council ably led by Head Students Georgina Curtis and Paul Gerry.

Advanced Level Results 2016 saltash.net Community School



There was much to celebrate at saltash.net community school when students arrived on the morning of Thursday August 18th to collect their long awaited A Level and AS Level results. The months of hard work and effort had definitely paid off with almost 50% of all grades achieved at A Level being A*, A and B. With a cohort of 98 students, making it one of the largest A Level groups across schools in Cornwall, these results demonstrate the ongoing success of post 16 provision at saltash.net. Very pleasingly, alongside the very high proportion of top grades, the average points score per student also increased in 2016, reflecting excellent progress across the entire ability range.

There were many outstanding individual performances, including those of the school's Head Student team for 2015 - 16. Between them, Georgina Curtis, Paul Gerry, Ellen Hambly and Hannah Paull clocked up a remarkable 4 A*s, 4 As and 5Bs, whilst at the same time having made an exemplary contribution to the school and local community throughout their time at saltash.net.

Also deserving of special individual praise was Ellie Spencer who faced extreme adversity throughout the duration of her A Levels, which included her ongoing battle with the cancer she was diagnosed with during her GCSEs. Despite everything, Ellie still managed to secure an A* grade in Psychology, an A grade in Sociology, B grades in Maths and Biology and an A* for her Extended Project Qualification.

The following fifteen students all achieved at least two A* or A grades overall:

Lauren Armstrong: A* (Business Studies), A (Geography), B (Maths), A* (Extended Project)
 Gemma Bennett: A* (Sociology), Distinction (Applied Science), B (Geography)
 Sam Cooke: A (Art and Design), A (Design and Technology), C (Geography)
 Georgina Curtis: A* (Maths), A (English Language), A (Media)
 James Duff: A* (P.E.), A (French), A (Maths), B (History)
 Paul Gerry: A* (Maths), A (Further Maths), B (Computer Science), C (Physics)
 Nathan Gilchrist: A* (Sociology), A (Business Studies) Distinction (Applied Science)
 Andrew Grech: A* (Fine Art), A (Design and Technology), C (History)
 Mark Hall: A* (Sociology), A (German), B (Biology)
 Ellen Hambly: A* (Psychology), A (French), B (History)
 Jessica Jones: A (Theatre Studies), A (English Language), B (Media)
 Tim Pook: A (Physics), A (Maths), B (Chemistry), B (German)

Matthew Seymour: A (Chemistry), A (Physics), A (Maths)
 Ellie Spencer: A* (Psychology), A (Sociology), B (Biology), B (Maths), A* (Extended Project)

Molly Stubbs: A* (Art and Design), A (English Language), A (History)

These superb results now mean that the majority of students are able to progress to their first choice universities or apprenticeships, which include the prestigious Glasgow School of Art for Molly Stubbs, a place at London University (Royal Holloway) to study Film, Television and Media Production for Georgina Curtis, Exeter University's Mathematics with International Study for Matt Seymour and Law with French at Bristol University for Ellen Hambly. For Gabriel Crocombe, who secured three B grades in Maths, Further Maths and Physics, a place to study Maths with Education awaits at the highly regarded Texas A & M University in the United States of America.

For Year 12 students collecting their results, there was also a great deal to celebrate with more outstanding achievements, including those of Ed Gilford who, alongside attaining A grades in Further Maths, Physics and Chemistry and an A* in the Extended Project, also managed to gain an A* in A Level Maths a year early, with a terrific final result of 594 marks out of 600 across all of his papers.

Head of Sixth Form, Adam Killeya, praised all of the outcomes, saying, 'We are really proud of what the students have achieved with the strong support of their teachers, family and friends: their hard work really has paid off.'

Inevitably, for staff and students at saltash.net, this year's A Level Results were tinged with sadness and poignancy following the tragic death of year 13 student, Charlie Pitcher, back in July. Speaking on results' day, Headteacher, Isobel Bryce, said, 'The whole school community continues to be greatly saddened by Charlie's untimely death. I am certain, however, that his family will be feeling an element of pride today knowing that Charlie was among the school's top performers, gaining, alongside other very good results, an A grade in Maths, the subject he was most passionate about.'

In tribute to Charlie, a group of year 13 students who are part of a band called Helvellyn will be playing a concert in his memory at a local pub on results' day night.

For GCSE results see the October edition of the Observer

Tell your friends & family to visit us at...
www.saltash-observer.co.uk



Believe and Achieve

Year 5/6 Open Evenings
 Wednesday 5th and Thursday 6th October
 6.30pm

saltash.net looks forward to welcoming you to our school



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