

Town Messenger



Edition 22 : August 2010

A Message from the Mayor

Dear all,

This is my first Messenger as Mayor, and I must begin by reiterating my tribute to the immediate past Mayor Councillor Sue Hooper and her consort John on another superlative year in office, and to thank Sue for acting as Town Clerk for two weeks at the start of my term.

As I stated in my July Observer column Debbie Ashton is our temporary Town Clerk until Ray Lane can take up the post permanently (September 6th). We have been very fortunate in the last couple of weeks to secure Debbie's extremely capable services full time until then. This will be of great help to everyone at the Guildhall and Town Council in ensuring that we continue business as usual and clear all outstanding issues for Ray's start.

Merryn and I have greatly enjoyed our first two months in office – the official engagement count stands at 36 as I write this and we have enjoyed all of them – from huge events like the Regatta and Emergency Services Road Awareness Day, to schools fete and sports days, to strawberry teas and presentation evenings. We have also had the opportunity to travel further afield – from Plymouth to Penzance and many places in between! Many thanks to all of those who are supporting us in our time in office –our wonderful Deputies Colin and Marilyn, other councillors, town council staff, family, friends, residents of Saltash, my chaplain Jeff and my Mayor's cadets George and Chris.

Having the chance to attend so many events in Saltash brings home just how active and splendid a town we live in – so much going on, and so many people putting themselves out to help others, and make their lives more enjoyable, and raise funds for worthy causes. There are also so many people who go out of their way to say hello and brighten others' day: it reminds me how lucky we all are to live here.

I do want to mention two big festivals taking place in the coming couple of months which you may have already heard about: the first is Salt Fest – a fantastic festival of music focused on the Waterside, from 20th-22nd August. There will be Blues, Rock, Folk, Jazz and World Music across five venues, and three headline events at Livewire including The Damned. Some of our wonderful local bands will also be involved and Saltash Town Council is proud to be sponsoring this event which will hopefully be the first of many!

The second is Making Saltash Greener from 11th-26th September – a festival to launch Saltash's status as a Transition Town. Transition Towns are communities that recognise the environmental challenges we are facing and seek to adapt their communities to meet and even benefit from this challenge. Events will range from a Green Fashion Show to a Freeboot Sale, to a Green Pub Quiz, to an Alternative Transport Fair. The festival will also see a trial evening opening of many shops of Fore Street – planned for Friday 17th September until 7pm. Many thanks to over 20 shops for agreeing to try this and to Cllr Bruce Reid for asking, persuading or cajoling them!

Besides those two big festivals there are many other wonderful events taking place over the summer in Saltash, and I hope to see many of you at them!

Councillor Adam Killeya
Mayor of Saltash 2010-11

Date for your diary

There will be a public meeting at the Guildhall on 28th September 2010 7.00pm. A chance to meet and debate the general public concerns regarding anti-social behaviour with leading members of the community.

Making Saltash Greener – A Transition Festival

Saltash in Transition are holding a two week festival from 11th-26th September to celebrate the launch of Saltash as a transition town – something you may have read about in the last Messenger. Transition means looking at how we live our lives – our food, transport, leisure, work etc. – and working together a community to ask how we can make our lives even more enjoyable whilst meeting the environmental challenges that we face.

The launch itself will take place at the bottom of Fore Street around 11am on Saturday 11th, and will be followed by a fortnight of lots of different events. There will be music in the street and a stall with festival information on Friday 10th September (3-4), Saturday 11th (11:30-1:30), Saturday 18th (11-1) and Saturday 25th (11-1). We will also be submitting details of all the events to the Town Council Website Events Diary. Our final official event will be the Bring and Share Picnic and Art Workshop on the Waterside on the 25th, but we will also be present in numbers at the Churches Together picnic and harvest festival on the 26th which links in very nicely with our festival themes!

<http://www.sea.pl12.org.uk/making-saltash-greener>

Meet Your Councillor at Waitrose 10th July 2010

For the first time Councillors held a “Meet the People” event outside Fore Street and the venue on this occasion was the Waitrose store at Carkeel. The event was well received and below are some of the issues raised by parishioners.

- Concern over empty shops in Fore Street and the effect on business by business rates. (This is not something the Town Council can control).
- A few concerns from the Wearde Road / St Stephens area over speeding cars and the ineffective use and safety of speed humps.
- St Stephens - the parking of cars belonging to local business in the Warfelton area.
- Pilmere inevitably still is a talking point, over waste land, grass cutting and the uncertainty over the adoption of the estate by Cornwall Council.
- Allotments at Hatt - this is currently in the hands of the planners.
- The need for a safe crossing point on the A38.
- A resident of the Lower Fore Street area was concerned over the booming noise from the Tamar bridge, which is 24/7.

Section 106 Money – A brief introduction

Section 106 Money is money given by a developer to help deal with issues that are caused by their planning application: for example

- i) an out-of-town supermarket developer might give money to help protect /regenerate the town centre , in light of the potential damage to it caused by the new store
- ii) a housing estate developer might make a contribution towards council education costs, in light of the extra pressure on schools caused by the new houses.
- iii) an industrial estate developer might make a contribution to highway works needed to improve roads so that they can handle the expected extra traffic to the estate

There are currently two major pots of Section 106 Money for regeneration in Saltash – from the LIDL store and Waitrose Extension – totalling approximately half a million pounds. The majority of this money may only be used for projects to regenerate the Town Centre, whilst part of the rest can also be used on ‘projects of community benefit’

To ensure that this money is spent properly and according to the agreements signed, a special group has been set up consisting of the Four Cornwall Councillors for Saltash, two Town Council representatives, and two Saltash Gateway Community Interest Company representatives. Cornwall Council Officers are advising them on the legal and financial arrangements. The group is particularly anxious to ensure that the money is spent in the interests of as large a part of the community as possible, and that large-scale strategic projects are considered first. Money will only be spent if 75% of the group agrees and the agenda and minutes of this group will be published on the Guildhall notice board.

Allotment update!

The Town Council remains committed to endeavouring to find space within the town to meet the demand for allotments. Work on the new cemetery is about to start and there will be provision for some allotments there that should accommodate some of those on the waiting list. The Town Council is also speaking with other providers who may be able to offer facilities to parishioners .

Saltash Heritage Museum and Local History Centre.

Ten years ago, Lower Fore Street in Saltash, became a hive of activity with the arrival of the Saltash Heritage Museum and Local History Centre. For anyone who has not visited this little gem of a Museum, just pop down to number 17 Lower Fore Street. The times and dates of opening are on the door. You will receive a warm welcome from the many volunteers who work tirelessly to keep the building open. For eight months (April - November) each year the exhibition on the ground floor is open. The exhibition is changed every year: this year's exhibition is entitled the 'Pastimes of Past times' and celebrates the hobbies, pastimes and recreational activities of the townsfolk over the centuries. Next year the exhibition will be about 'Education' as well as being a celebration of the 50th anniversary of the opening of the Tamar Road bridge. Entry is free to all sections of the Museum.

On Wednesday afternoons, Friday evenings and Saturday mornings the Local History research room on the first floor is open to the general public. This section of the Museum is open all through the year and only closes for Christmas. Here you can spend hours studying old documents, admire some of the 16,000 photographs or examine the Census returns for the PL 12 area. You can dig through the Parish Records for Saltash and all the surrounding parishes or study old maps. Many visitors come from abroad to avail themselves of this service. There are always two experienced volunteers on duty to assist you. The Museum is always happy to welcome School parties or groups of people who would like a private visit to the Museum when it is closed to the general public. Saltash Heritage are always looking for volunteers to assist in the many facets of running a Museum. Please phone for further information.

If you are interested in Archaeology, the Tamarside Archaeological Unit, is part of the Museums work. Using 'Time Team' geophysics equipment, the group explore South East Cornwall, surveying land, field walking, water divining and examining the landscape. What have they found so far? Well, a couple of Roman Forts, an old Manor house, some Stone age barrows, and much more. If you want to know more, please pop along to the Museum to find out.

Saltash Heritage is a fully accredited Museum and this high status has been earned by the dedication of the Management Committee and Volunteers in the organization. Saltash Town Council, who own the premises occupied by the Museum, are always fully committed to backing the work done in the Museum: a Saltash Town Councillor participates in monthly Saltash Heritage Management Committee meetings. Everyone in the Museum looks forward to welcoming you.

17 Lower Fore Street, Saltash PL 12 6JQ. tel.: 01752 848466 www.saltash-heritage.org.uk

Saltash Gateway CIC

Saltash Gateway CIC is now in its fourth successful year, in which our membership has continued to increase. This may be partly attributed to the excellent marketing of the Saltash loyalty card of which there are over 950 cards in circulation, with plans for a 'Visitor' version to endeavour to bring visitors to the area.

"What are the achievements?"

The Board of Directors have individually committed to leading projects, there are 7 "Priority 1" projects which are:

- Fore Street Regeneration
- Strategic and Community Transport
- Local Economic Development
- Health
- Tourism
- Youth
- Community and Environment

Fore Street Regeneration is a key priority as the CIC had a grant from South West Regional Development Agency, STC and Caradon to produce a town centre action plan. That plan is now published and the Directors look forward to giving a public briefing and consultation event in the Guildhall in the early autumn.

Earlier in the year the Board asked Les Williams, our Finance Director, to act as Managing Director for a trial period. This has worked well and in his 6 months as Managing Director he has been working with Project Leaders on a number of the priority projects, in particular finding sources and developing bids for financial support for the continuing work of the CIC.

The Directors have also been working with the Community Network Area Manager for Saltash and Torpoint - Simon Swale over the last year. Together with the two town councils we have a unique opportunity to influence the new County Council in a positive direction, and at the same time embed our Community Action Plan in Cornwall's strategic planning.

With your support the Saltash Gateway Community Interest Company can make a real difference. See Saltash Gateway Community Interest Company website –www.saltashgatewaycic.co.uk - new members welcome.

Brunel Inn keeps Community Toilet Scheme going

The new owners of the Brunel Inn have agreed to remain in the Town Councils, Community Toilet Scheme. Members of the public may use the toilet facilities along with their children, subject to usual licensing laws, but Karen and David, the new owners say they are firmly a family pub.

The Town Council wish Karen and David well with both the pub and accommodation that they provide and thank them for remaining a cornerstone of the Community Toilet Scheme.

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY!

The Christmas Event including the Civic Carol Service, stalls, entertainment and all the usual festive frivolities will be held in Fore Street on **Saturday 27th November** including the switching on of the new festive lights! Sadly, Mr Malcolm Down, after many years of service, has decided to hang up his microphone. The Town Council is grateful for the time and entertainment that he has given to the town over the years. Local DJ Mr Peter Gunn has agreed to be Master of Ceremonies for the event this year. Hopefully the weather will be a little kinder than it was last

Stubbies

The Saltash Town Council continues to encourage the community to keep our streets clear of cigarette ends and chewing gum droppings.

To that effect the Council still has a supply of "STUBBIES" at reception.

The Stubbies are little disposable pouches where the cigarette butts can be safely extinguished and stored and then suitably disposed of as per the directions on the pouch. Likewise the chewing gum compartment serves the same purpose.

For your pouch please call into the Saltash Town Council offices between Monday to Friday 9.30 am to 4.30 pm.

HOME /GARDEN REQUEST

The past few months have brought us glorious sunshine and some of the heaviest rain we have seen in quite a while. This has resulted in garden shrubs and plants burgeoning rapidly and we have heard of a few concerns from members of public in Saltash, regarding overgrown shrubs and hedges which are actually encroaching on public walkways and pavements.

Every house holders has that duty of care to prevent over-growth of their hedges onto pavements etc. therefore could we ask you all to be aware of any overgrowing hedges that may restrict pedestrians and to keep walkways clear.

Overgrown hedges and borders could pose a variety of problems for pedestrians especially those with mobility difficulties, which we are sure you all want to avoid. We send our plea to you and hope you will help - PLEASE GET THOSE GREEN-FINGERS GOING TO KEEP YOUR HEDGES TRIMMED!! Huge thanks in advance on behalf of all the community.

Quiz

1. The Sailing Club had two premises, the upper one is now a pleasant private club for townspeople (not just for gentlemen), where good company and conversation abounds. Where is it and what is it called?
2. Which Watersider won the Victoria Cross and in which country (unusual for battles)?

Answers to the last quiz

1. Which famous 18th Century author described Saltash as a "poor, little shattered town with a bad ferry-boat"? Clue: the TV series "Lost". Daniel Defoe who wrote "Robinson Crusoe" passed through Saltash and described it as a "little, poor, shattered town".
2. There is a gravestone in the cemetery (one of two similar ones) almost opposite the disused public toilets. On it are the names of twenty young boys. Where did they come from in Saltash and how did they tragically die? 24 boys are on the tombstone at St Stephens. They died over some years from pneumonia, bronchitis, meningitis and probably septicaemia amongst other diseases. Boys were cheap and medical care poor for them.

Don't forget if you have any concerns about the Town, you can contact your local Councillors

Burraton Ward

Peter Clements	Tel: 842425
Sue Hooper	Tel: 843073
Bill Phillips	Tel: 518176
Colin Riches*	Tel: 846843

Essa Ward

Adam Killeya	Tel: 848691
Merryn Killeya	Tel: 848691
Colin Oakes	Tel: 845207
Bruce Reid	Tel: 308387

Pill Ward

Joe Ellison	Tel: 849340
Martin Gee	Tel: 513306
Derek Holley*	Tel: 845418

St Stephens Ward

Bob Austin*	Tel: 844666
Richard Bickford	Tel: 841119
Peter Stephens	Tel: 846597
David Yates	Tel: 843260

* indicates Cornwall Councillor

Cornwall Councillors

Bryan Preston	Tel: 848240
---------------	-------------

Town Clerk

Mrs Debbie Ashton *
Email: townclerk@saltash.gov.uk
Tel: 844846 Fax: 840914

*From 6th September 2010 the Town Clerk will be Mr Ray Lane

Town Council Office Opening Hours:

9.30am - 4.30pm Monday - Friday
Website: www.saltash.gov.uk

Meet the People

Councillors will be in Fore Street on the following dates to discuss local issues with residents:

Saturday 4th September

Further dates to be confirmed—check the notice board in Fore Street for details.

Flying the Union Flag

The Saltash branch of the Royal British Legion recently requested that the Town Council fly the Union Flag at half mast at the Guildhall when a member of the armed forces from Cornwall is killed in action. Councillors wholeheartedly supported this request and the flag will be flown when requested by the Royal British Legion.