

Saltash Town Council

Konsel an dre Essa

Town Messenger



www.saltash.gov.uk



Edition 29 : October 2012

Message from the Mayor

Hello Everyone

I hope you have had a good time during this wettest of summers. It was pleasing that we had no major floods and any minor drain blockages were quickly dealt with by Cornwall's emergency teams.

Congratulations

The Town must congratulate Mr. Whipp, our Town Crier, who has won three competitions for best dressed Town Crier. Well done Brian and his wife Monica. The Town has won the Caradon Town in Bloom shield. This prize is awarded by the South East Cornwall Tourist Association annually to the town with the best presentation not just because the location is pretty. Our thanks for winning this prestigious award must go to many people, but I shall mention Councillor Sue Hooper for encouraging the Town Council to fund money for plants and labour, STIG for Fore Street cleaning and hanging baskets and SEA for the work in Victoria Gardens and the vegetables in Fore Street.

Wanted

There are recruitment drives for clubs all the time. I must, however, advertise two clubs for young people. The St John Ambulance are about to start increasing their numbers of young people in early Winter. A new club for young people will have an open day on 13th October in the Wesley Hall; this group will concentrate on seamanship and boats and may lead to becoming a Sea Cadet unit (Phone Richard Fry 849329 for details) The cry for **volunteers** is continual but **St Barnabas League of Friends** is desperate for helpers. This group continually supports our local hospital providing beds and other medical equipment for our local community that the NHS will find difficulty in funding (or we get it before the NHS plan). It is the League's 50th anniversary next year and you will be welcome to help (phone Joyce Mepsted 845802 for details).

Unhelpful

Cornwall Council has announced that it will close the toilets at the waterfront. The Town Council is undertaking discussions with Cornwall.

Stagnation

Cornwall Council is not responding to our communications on ToCH, the allotment site at Grenfell Avenue, the land behind the Coop car park and the Maurice Huggins room.

Snail Pace Progress

The weed killing in Fore Street area and the town as a whole does not seem to have been too successful. The Town Council is organizing a limited weed cleaning using people who are fulfilling community payback with the Probation Service. Cornwall has made some responses to our request for help on the Local Plan but has not given dates for training.

Improvements

The Town will have **free parking** every day from 1st December to the end of Christmas and every Saturday and Sunday until the end of March. No. 4 Fore St. will open for mini market stalls shortly after it is refurbished by the Saltash CIC.

Still to Come

Thanks for all suggestions for the Maurice Huggins room. Details of progress will be announced shortly. On the 11th November, along with all the Nation, the Town will remember the dead and casualties of all wars in particular the two World Wars. The parade will start at 2 o'clock at St Stephens School and march to St Stephens Church for a memorial service followed by wreath laying at 4 o'clock.

Martin Gee - Mayor of Saltash



Saltash Celtic Cross Nears Completion

The three year project to erect a giant contemporary interpretation of a Celtic Cross at the Cornwall end of the Tamar Bridge is nearly complete, with an official national launch planned early in the New Year. The £550,000 project is funded by the National Lottery Community Spaces programme, with financial support from Cornwall Council and Saltash Town Council, and is rated by the Lottery as one of the most important in the UK.

The project is led by Saltash Waterfront Residents Association, and started life as a means of opening up two acres of neglected woodland at the Gateway to Cornwall. Vice Chair Joe Ellison says “ Although the Lottery supported the idea, they said it needed a “Wow” factor. We then remembered the design for a 20 metre modern Celtic Cross created by Cornish sculptor Simon Thomas for the Millennium, and contacted Simon. With strong support from Eden founder Tim Smit and Cornwall Chief Executive Kevin Lavery, the project began nearly three years ago, and is now endorsed by financial support from Prince Charles, Duke of Cornwall”.

Work on the woodland has now almost finished, and maintenance and future community involvement will be managed by SWRA in conjunction with Cornwall Wildlife Trust. There are plans to establish an orchard of old Cornish apple trees, planting about November, to reflect the heritage of the site. Next year, there will also be wildlife walks and activities for young people, such as Forest Schools in school holidays.

Meanwhile, fabrication of the Cross is well advanced at the RAF St Mawgan factory of Gateguards UK, in a former Tornado hangar. Gateguards are better known for their full scale replicas of WW II Spitfires and Mustangs. The Cross, on a similar scale to the Angel of the North, is built using advanced boat building glass and carbon fibre technologies. Whilst it weighs less than 3 tonnes, the sheer scale of the Cross means that transport to the prepared piled base alongside the Tamar Bridge will need to go via the A30 to Exeter, rather than use the shorter but twisty A38 route through the Glynn valley. The installation, probably in December, should be a truly spectacular event.

The Cross will be the first thing to be seen by visitors into Cornwall, and we also hope to access funding for a sensitive up lighting scheme. Based on the experience of the Angel of the North, it has the potential to bring enormous economic benefits to Cornwall in general and to Saltash in particular as an iconic tourist destination.

If you are reading the Messenger online photographs can be viewed by clicking [here](#).
Alternatively visit <http://www.saltash.gov.uk/notices.php>

Support For Community Groups

Visitors to Saltash frequently comment upon the remarkable community spirit in the town. Recognising this, for several years this Council has deliberately allocated substantial sums each year towards financial support for new and established community groups and events. Indeed, few other local authorities provide such generous support. There are two main funds open to applications :

Community Chest : Budget 2012/13 about £13,000. Grants awarded to date –

Saltash Camera Club	Display stands	£400
Saltash Sailing Club Cadets	Safety equipment & clothing	£600
Saltash Air Training Corps	Netbooks	£500
Friends of Churchtown Nature Reserve	Funding for part-time warden	£1000
Saltash Ladies Choir	Travel costs - Swindon	£250
Saltash Ferry Telegraph Fund	Purchase of telegraph	£1500
Ashtorre Rock Ferry 50	Funding towards permanent sculpture	£1000
Saltash Environmental Action	Flower beds in Victoria Gardens	£500
2 nd Saltash Scout Group	Upgrading toilets etc at Latchbrook	£480
Burraton Male Voice Choir	Travel costs – Royal Albert Hall	£250
Latchbrook Neighbourhood Assocn	Start up costs	£750
Churchtown Farm Allotments Assocn	Purchase of strimmer/brush cutter	£350

Tamar Trotters Junior Athletics	Sports hall equipment	£750
Saltash U3A	Music & Art study day	£500
Pillmere Community Assocn	Purchase of mower & strimmer	£1000

Festivals Fund : Budget 2011/12 £17,500. Grants awarded to date –

Saltash Regatta	Annual event	£1860
Saltash Lions May Fair	Annual event	£1687
Saltash Environmental Action	(Subsequently returned)	£900
Music Speech and Drama Festival	Annual event	£1000
Royal British Legion	Festival of Remembrance	£588
Royal Wedding Garden Party	Various	£640
Supply of a full suite of Road Closure signs and 150 road cones for events		£1410
Waterside Ferry 50 Festival	Various costs	£3200
Lantern workshops	Christmas lights switch-on	£2380

Application forms are available from the Guildhall or the Town Council website www.saltash.gov.uk/data_transparency.php. The simple form has various conditions, principally that the community group should be based in Saltash and possess a constitution and set of audited accounts. The group itself should at least part fund the purpose of the grant, which must be approved, and acknowledge the Town contribution in publicity.

A Victorian Christmas – Saturday 1st December

A merry group of volunteers has been working hard on plans to make our town's Christmas event even more memorable this year. A Fantabulous Craft Fair will be set up in marquees in Victoria Gardens and Keast Mews. Fore Street will become a Pedestrian Haven between 3pm and 7:30, with shops opening until late, children's rides, entertainment and food stalls. Dress up in Victorian costume and join in with the Artful Dodger and Oliver as they make their way down Fore Street singing 'Consider Yourself', and then take part in the Victorian Fancy Dress competition – there are categories for children and adults! Community carol singing will be incorporated into a Nativity Play that will be staged at the bottom of Fore Street just after the lights have been switched on by Hazel Greeves and Hannah Birtle, our Citizen and Young Citizen of the Year. The finale to the whole event will be a concert showcasing the talent of some of our younger citizens. So come along to Santa's Grotto in the Maurice Huggins room, or marvel at the Victorian barrel organs; see if you can spot Brunel, or have a go at creating your own Christmas decorations. Details will be uploaded on to the Town Council's events website as we get nearer the date: www.saltashcelebrates.org.uk

12 noon - 7.00pm	Fantabulous Craft Fair in Victoria Gardens and Keast Mews
3pm -7.30pm	Pedestrian Haven in Fore Street
3.00pm	Community Singalong of 'Consider Yourself' leaves Victoria Gardens
3.30pm	Victorian Fancy Dress Competition, at the bottom of Fore Street
4.45pm	Lantern Parade on Fore Street
5.15pm	Switching on of Christmas Lights & Nativity Play at the bottom of Fore Street
6:15 – 7:30pm	Yuletide Concert on the stage at the bottom of Fore Street

Lantern Workshops

The Lantern Parade will return, bigger than last year thanks to funding from Saltash Town Council. If you would like to take part in this year's Parade then come along to one of the 3-hour workshops and make your very own lantern. The workshops are free and are being held in various locations throughout Saltash on Saturday 27th, Sunday 28th and Monday 29th October. No experience or expertise necessary. Your creation will be stored until 1st December. Pick it up from the Guildhall, carry it in the Parade and then it is yours to take home. Book a place by giving your contact details to the Receptionist at the Guildhall. The Town Council would like to make the Lantern Parade an annual event, so we are particularly keen to hear from people who are interested in leading next year's workshops.

The Saltash Town Centre Improvement Group Update

The STIG continues to work on projects for the benefit of the Town Centre – highlights over the summer have been:

Phase II of Hanging Baskets – in Olympic/Union colours to celebrate the two major events of the summer – this year's baskets are bigger, brighter and better!

Free Parking Saturdays – a very popular move amongst traders, locals and visitors; this continues to run until the end of November.

In progress is the 'Town App' for Smart Phones and improved signage, and ongoing investigations into a 'Talking Bench' and possible partial street coverings.

Phase III of projects, which should go forward for funding approval shortly, is hoped to include, amongst other projects: Christmas Free Parking in December, like last year

Winter Hanging Baskets

A late night opening experiment for the Christmas run-up

A budget for Town publicity, to be overseen by the new group SPLAT (Saltash Publicity Local Action Team)

Watch this space!

Staging an Event?

Have you spotted the Queen waving in the old gas showroom at the bottom of Fore Street? She would like to be let out... The life size cutout was bought by the Town Council for the Jubilee celebrations and is now available to any community group free of charge. If you are staging a fund-raising or commemorative event you are also welcome to borrow the glorious batik flags that were created to greet the Olympic Torch when the Torch Relay ran through our town. The Town Council also has a 9m x 6m stage that can be borrowed.

Also, some of the existing community groups, such as Mayfair and Regatta, have assets that were bought with the aid of previous grants from Saltash Town Council. These may be borrowed by other groups, subject to agreement from the group concerned and a commitment to make good any damage. For instance, the Regatta committee has several hundred metres of bunting, "prayer" flags and walkie-talkies. Saltash Town Council has a list of assets. Please contact the Guildhall for further details.

Free Live Music Guide for Saltash

Saltash is fortunate to have a vibrant live music scene. Across our town's venues and pubs, there is something to suit everyone's taste, from blues, jazz and rock through to choral and classical. Amazingly for a town of its size, Saltash has at least ten live music events every week – if you know where and when to find them! 'Tuned' is a community service that publishes a free and comprehensive online music guide – information by Saltash people for Saltash people. You can sign up to receive the free weekly email guide by visiting www.tunedinsaltash.com

But where's the quiz? There's no room this time for the quiz but it will return in the next issue!

Published by Saltash Town Council

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 Killea Tel: 848691
Colin Oakes Tel: 845207
Bruce Reid Tel: 308387
James Shepherd Tel: 847144

Pill Ward

Joe Ellison Tel: 849340
Hilary Frank Tel: 845114
Martin Gee Tel: 513306
Derek Holley* Tel: **845418**

St Stephens Ward

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

* indicates Cornwall Councillor

Cornwall Councillors

Bryan Preston Tel: 848240

Town Clerk

Mr Ray Lane
Email: townclerk@saltash.gov.uk
Tel: 844846

Town Council Office Opening Hours:

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

Keep Saltash Tidy!

Don't forget that you can

SOLD OUT obtain a 'Stubbi'™ pouch from the Guildhall for a

Saltash Card

Have you got a card? Don't forget that you can keep up to date with all the current offers by checking the website www.saltashcard.co.uk