



SALTASH TOWN COUNCIL

# TOWN MESSENGER



Issue 36

Nov/Dec 2014

## Message from the Mayor

Firstly I would like to say 'thank you' for the support the town gave us for the Civic Remembrance Service on November 9<sup>th</sup>. It was wonderful to see so many town groups and associations represented in the church. On Armistice Day there were children from a local school and another group who had been to visit The Saltash Museum who came to watch the 2 minutes silence taking place on Fore Street. They were immaculately behaved even though the weather was somewhat unpleasant, well done!

Things are moving on with several of the larger planning applications around our town. By the time this Messenger comes out we will have some idea of the way forward for the Broadmoor Farm application. These huge applications are extremely complex, not only the housing, but also the roads and traffic management in the surrounding areas. This will be one of the largest changes to our town in the near future and we must do our best to make sure it is the best it can be.

The Highways Agency has said that the changes to the Carkeel roundabout and the construction of the pedestrian overbridge is due to start this Winter and finish in the Spring. It will doubtless cause problems to drivers for a while, but let's hope it will be worth it. We will be able to cross from Callington Road to the A388 without running the gauntlet of the traffic, which must be a positive if you are walking or biking. The funding for these projects comes from the HA's Pinchpoint pot.

I hope the weather will be kind to us again for the Christmas Event on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December. The group, led by Hilary Frank, that has put this event together have worked incredibly hard to make the day one to remember yet again. I am looking forward to the new Christmas lights, the Santas on bikes, the lantern parade, the stalls, the carol singing, the pantomime horse race, the fireworks etc. Details are in this edition of the Messenger or check the Saltash Christmas festival Facebook page.

**Councillor Jean Dent**

**Mayor of Saltash**

## CHRISTMAS SHOPPING WEEK

**6<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> December**

Fore Street, Lower Fore Street and Keast Mews offer a wide variety of shops with plenty of gift ideas, from art to food, from DIY to books, and much more besides. With shops running Christmas promotions like the Christmas Cracker competition there is even more reason to be shopping in Saltash this festive season. And remember: if every adult in Saltash spent £5 per week in a local shop instead of online it would mean at least £3 million per year going to our local economy. Shop local this Christmas.

# SALTASH CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2014



10am – 8pm	Christmas Tree Festival at the Church of St Nicholas and St Faith
10:45 (ish)	Convoy of Santas on motorbikes
4:30 – 7:30	Pedestrian Haven and Christmas Market
4:45	10-minute Pantomime (Courtyard at Top of Town)
5:00	Great Pantomime Horse Race
5:30	Civic Parade leaves Victoria Gardens
5:40	Ceremony to switch on the Christmas lights
	Hosted by Radio Plymouth
5:45	Outdoor Civic Carol Service
6:30	10-minute Pantomime (Keast Mews)
6:30	Visit of the Snow Queen (Lower Fore Street)
7:00	Lantern Parade leaves Guildhall
7:20	Firework Display

Sponsored by Saltash Chamber of Commerce

Between 4:30pm and 7:30pm on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December Fore Street, Lower Fore Street and Keast Mews will be transformed in to a magical wonderland. Pantomime characters on stilts, snow in the air and carol singing will provide a festive atmosphere. Shops will open late and with craft stalls dotted around you're sure to find some perfect Christmas gifts. This year's theme of Pantomime will add a sparkle of fun. Oh, yes it will !

And remember that as well as creating magical memories, the Festival is a platform to raise funds for the Mayor's Charity, which is the Saltash Children's Appeal. This is a group that gives financial support to local families or carers of ill or disabled children. So please give generously.

## **SANTAS ON BIKES (10:45-ish)**

Cheer on the motorbiking Santas as they ride up Fore Street on their way to the children's hospice at Little Harbour. Or join the convoy! More details on [www.santasonabike.org.uk](http://www.santasonabike.org.uk)

## **CHRISTMAS CRAFTS (4:30 - 6:30)**

Make your own Christmas decoration with the expert help of SEA at the Brunel Inn.

## **IT'S PANTO TIME!**

### **4:45 Courtyard at the Top of the Town**

### **6:30 Keast Mews**

Burraton Community Players will perform two showings of a specially commissioned 10-minute pantomime.

### **THE GREAT PANTOMIME HORSE RACE (5:00pm)**

5 brave teams will gallop up Fore Street to raise money for the Saltash Children's Appeal. Thanks to the groups fielding a team: the Saltash Twinning Association; Maitlands, Tamar Trotters; The China Fleet Club, and Burraton Community Players. Who will win? Place your 'bet' at a participating shop and be entered in to the prize draw for tickets for Jack and the Beanstalk (kindly donated by the Theatre Royal).

## **VISIT OF THE SNOW QUEEN (6:30)**

Meet the Snow Queen at 10 Lower Fore Street. Free to have your photo taken with her, but please bring a tin of food as a donation for Saltash Foodbank.

## **LANTERN PARADE (7pm)**

Children in Saltash primary schools, guides, residents of St. Anne's Care Home and service families at the China Fleet Club are among the people who have made lanterns for this year's Parade. Watch out for Puss in Boots and the Goose that laid the Golden Egg.

## **FIREWORKS (7:20)**

The whole evening will finish with a bang with a magnificent display of fireworks over Fore Street.



## **CHRISTMAS FUN FOR CHILDREN !**

**Elves' Workshop 11am – 2pm**

**23-25 Fore Street**

**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> December**

Drop in to the workshop to write Santa a letter and the elves will make sure it gets delivered. There will be craft sessions, too – perhaps you'll make your very own Christmas decoration !

Entry is free. Children: please bring an adult with you!

### **Paint a Pantomime Picture**

Enter a painting on a pantomime theme and you could win one of two £25 vouchers to spend in a Saltash shop.

And remember to vote for your favourite painting!

Voting boxes will be in participating shops.

Bring your painting to the Guildhall by 4pm on 11<sup>th</sup> December

### **Christmas Photo Competition**

The Town Council and Saltash Camera Club are organising a competition so you can show off your favourite Christmas photo!

Certificates and prizes will be awarded in 3 age groups:

Years 1-6, Years 7 - 10 and Years 11 and upwards.

Send your Christmas photos to: [ianb55@btinternet.com](mailto:ianb55@btinternet.com) together with your name, your school's name, year group and title of photo .

Closing date = 4pm on 11<sup>th</sup> December

(By entering the competition you will have shared copyright with the Town Council)

**Elf !**

**Saltash Community Cinema**

**Saltash Guildhall**

**2:30pm Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> December**

Tickets available from 10 Lower Fore Street : £2 per adult ticket, £1 per child ticket

## **Town Council to pursue 'Devo Max' from Cornwall Council**

Saltash Town Council has unanimously voted to actively pursue the devolution of feasible services and buildings from Cornwall Council, including those that Cornwall is not necessarily offering at the moment but might be willing to devolve.

It has recently become clear that, due to Cornwall Council's budget situation, they would be looking to sell buildings or cease services unless they were able to persuade town and parish councils to take them on. This left the town council with three broad choices

1. Negotiate actively to take on a wider range of services, including those not currently under threat or actively on offer.
2. Take on only those services that were specifically offered, that would otherwise be lost and which were considered critical.
3. Refuse absolutely to take on any services, accepting that this would probably mean the loss of some (such as public toilets) and the reduction of others, as well as the sale of Cornwall Council buildings in Saltash etc.

Option 1 was chosen. This is very likely to be more expensive than the other options, and the town council was very mindful of this concern as it likely lead to an increased town-council element of council tax. However it was felt that this offered a rare opportunity to bring more buildings and services back under local control, and safeguard them for the future. It was also noted that the town council only takes around 4% of council tax (around £1 a week for Band D houses).

Those town councillors who also sit on Cornwall Council all abstained on the vote, to avoid any possible perception of a conflict of interest.

The council has now set up a Devolution Options Group (DOG) which will run the negotiations with Cornwall Council, and do all the detailed investigations for what is likely to be a very complex process.

Once the process is further on, and the specific costs and benefits are clearer, the council intends to consult before making a final decision.

## **Provision of Grit Bins for Self Help**

Saltash Town Council has provided Grit Bins at key locations and stocked them with salt and grit at the beginning of winter to allow motorists and communities to carry out 'self help'. (In other words Saltash Town Council positions them but none of its staff undertake gritting from them.)

Self Help Grit Bins are provided for the gritting of roads and public footways only. **SALT AND GRIT MUST NOT BE USED ON PRIVATE PATHS AND DRIVES, IT IS FOR PUBLIC AREAS ONLY.** Gritting on private land is the responsibility of the owner of that land. Saltash Town Council provided grit stocks should not be used for this purpose.

If salt and grit is removed for use on private drives, etc stocks will rapidly become depleted and little will be available for the greater good of the public at large.

If one of the grit bins is empty call Saltash Town Council on 01752 844846 or Email [enquiries@saltash.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@saltash.gov.uk) and give the location of the bin. It is not cost effective to refill bins individually during the winter but the Town Council will make arrangements for them to be refilled when several in an area are known to be empty.

For advice on snow clearing (should it be necessary!) please read the full cold weather advice leaflet on the Town Council website: <http://www.saltash.gov.uk/edit/stuploads/1592.pdf>

## **Green light for Broadmoor Farm !**

On Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> November the Hybrid Planning application for 120 hectares at Broadmoor Farm was approved at the Strategic Planning meeting held at Truro. The site is the whole area bounded by the A38, the Avery Way industrial estate and Stoketon Cross and includes :

- *up to 1000 housing units, at least 27.5% being affordable*
- *a care home up to 80 beds or sheltered housing up to 50 units*
- *up to 6 hectares of serviced employment land*
- *a neighbourhood centre of approximately one hectare, (up to 1000 sqm, including convenience store up to 400 sqm, with associated car parking, landscaping works (including a village square)*
- *a commercial centre of 0.5 hectares (including convenience store up to 60 sqm),*
- *a hotel of up to 60 bedrooms*
- *a half form entry primary school, with space for expansion*
- *open space, including parks, amenity space, natural and semi-natural green spaces, outdoor sports provision and playing fields for children and young people. Because of the nature of the site, with two major gas lines running through it, provision of open space is very generous.*
- *allotments, community orchards and woodland with power lines underground*
- *internal access roads, footpaths/cycleways including a pedestrian bridge across the A38); controlled landscaping works for surface water retention and control*
- *a new roundabout on the A38 at Stoketon Cross and western access to the site.*

This is one of Cornwall's most exciting projects ; the site has always been the preferred location by the Town Council for the future expansion of Saltash. Why so large ? First of all, the government can enforce building 1000 houses, and we would prefer one optimum location to piecemeal developments - as it can bring a whole range of benefits from planning gain 106 funding for highways education and drainage infrastructure for instance.

At the planning meeting there were two main concerns:-

1. That the Highways Agency and Cornwall Highways have still not decided on a solution for the new highway structure around the site. The strong wish of the Town Council and the Strategic Planning Committee is that the A388 traffic should be diverted from Roods Corner at Hatt to the new A38 Stoketon Cross roundabout. If this takes place, and the A388 is re-designated, a high proportion of through traffic could be removed from Carkeel permanently – it's a once in a lifetime opportunity. One of the Town Council's conditions is to assure that this work is carried out prior to the commencement of the development.

2. The minimum figure of affordable housing is only 27.5%, but it is the aim of the developers to increase this up to 40% within 15 years if the economic situation allows.

### **So what does this mean for Saltash?**

- The 6 hectares of employment land is to be used to attract high quality businesses to join the already strong Saltash economy. Saltash Town Council has already stipulated that they would

like to see 1 Job for every house that is built on the site, which would equal at least 1,000 jobs.

There will be an enormous economic benefit to the town as business entrepreneurs discover what it means to have an extra 2,000 or more people added to the population of Saltash.

Saltash has really only one way to expand with the River Tamar on the eastern flanks and the Lynher on the southern side so this is the one opportunity for a large development to make our town sustainable in the next 30 years.

### **A New Incinerator Threatens Saltash**

Without official notification to Saltash, our neighbours in Plymouth propose to build a large wood-burning incinerator on the old Toshiba site 500 metres across the Tamar, in clear sight of nearly 1000 houses in Saltash and directly adjacent to the Tamar Valley Area of Natural Beauty. Saltash Town Council is unanimously opposed to this development - not only is the incinerator a blot on the landscape with 20m buildings and a 45m chimney, but we believe that it will make the usual Tamar inversion fogs much worse and last longer. The wood feedstock also includes Class 3 (painted and impregnated) wood, and we are concerned at the effects on those with respiratory issues.

By the time this reaches you, the application will be decided at Plymouth City Planning on December 4th. The Town Council has objected, and hopes to be represented there

### **The Maurice Huggins Room**

On Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> the Mayor officially re-opened The Maurice Huggins Room. Many people will remember that it was open for many years for a cup of tea or coffee to help them on their way between shopping on Fore Street and the journey home. Over the years the committee that ran the 'the rest room' with such dedication, dwindled and the building shut down.

Recently The Town Council arranged to spend some of the Waitrose 106 monies on re-furbishing the building and making it fit for purpose. What purpose you may ask? Well we hope to be able to rent it out for community use. It has to be booked and used on a daily basis without any storage facilities in-house between visits. The Community Interest Company which runs 'For Saltash' at



the bottom of town is going to be setting up the system for booking the room and if you are interested please call in and speak to Rosie or Peter for more information.

It will be good to see such an important building in Victoria Park back in use and supporting clubs, associations and small businesses in our community.

Photo courtesy of WesternWeb Ltd

# What's on in Saltash ?\*

- From 16th November: 2nd Saltash Scout Group Christmas Card Postal Service in Saltash  
25p per card. Post boxes at Church Road Stores, Spar Mote Park & Cross Park, Piglets, Bookshelf, Saltash News, Polnoon
- From 29th November: Christmas Tree Festival, St Nicholas & St Faith Church  
Opening times: 29/11 10am—5.00pm; 30/11 2pm—6pm; 1/12 to 5/12 2pm—6pm; 6/12 10am—8pm; 7/12 2pm—4pm; 8/12 to 12/12 2pm—6pm. Entrance £1.50 (accompanied children free)  
*Saltash Handbell Ringers will play in the church on Sat 29th November from 10.00 a.m. to 12.00 noon and Wednesday 10th December from 2.00 p.m*
- Friday 5th December: Liskerret Male Voice Choir Christmas Concert  
A night of Christmas carols & music at St Stephens Church. Doors open at 6.45pm. Tickets £5 from Piglets or on the door.
- Saturday 6th December: Abbeyfield Christmas Sherry & Shortbread Morning  
10am—12 noon at Cresta House, Callington Road
- Saturday 6th December: Burraton Methodist Church Christmas Fair  
10am—2pm
- Saturday 6th December: Saltash Ladies Choir Christmas Coffee Morning  
10am—12 noon at Saltash Wesley Church
- Saturday 6th December: Saltash Christmas Festival  
4.30pm—7.30pm
- Saturday 6th December: RWindband Christmas Concert  
7.30pm—9.30pm More details from [mike@rwindband.co.uk](mailto:mike@rwindband.co.uk)
- Sunday 7th December: Saltash Ladies Choir—Carols among the trees at the Christmas Tree Festival, St Nicholas & St Faith Church  
4.00pm - Entrance £2.50 including mince pies
- Saturday 13th December: Christmas Concert with the Tamar Valley Male Voice Choir at St Nicholas & St Faith Church in aid of the Church Restoration Fund.  
7.30pm - 9.30pm Tickets £5 from Piglets/church during Christmas tree festival or telephone numbers on events diary entry
- Saturday 14th December: Mary Newman's Christmas Cottage  
Seasonal music by The Voices Choir, refreshments. Tickets £4 on the door.

**\*Details correct at time of publication. For more information and updated events in the town please go to [www.saltash.gov.uk/events](http://www.saltash.gov.uk/events)**

## Road Closures for Christmas Festival Saturday 6th December 2014

Sorry, but we will need to close off Fore Street for our Christmas festivities.

Between 15:00 and 20:30 public transport will be diverted from Fore Street on to North Road and the following restrictions will be in place:

- \* Fore Street will be closed to all traffic.
- \* King Edward Road will be one-way heading towards the roundabout from the junction with Victoria Road to Fore Street, and one-way heading the opposite direction from the junction with Victoria Road to Essa Road
- \* There will be no parking down one side of Glebe Avenue

### Deputy Mace Bearer

Applications are invited for the post of Deputy Mace Bearer. If you are interested in applying for this position please write to the Town Clerk, Mr Ray Lane, at the Guildhall, 12 Lower Fore Street, Saltash PL12 6JX. Interviews will be held at a later date to be confirmed.

### Guildhall opening hours

Please note that the Town Council offices at the Guildhall will be closed over the festive period. (Precise details to be confirmed shortly.) Full details will be published shortly on the Town Council website, noticeboards and social media as well as in the Guildhall. The Guildhall will remain open for functions except on Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Years Day.

<b>Your Town Council:</b>			
<b>Saltash North</b>	<b>Saltash South</b>	<b>Saltash East</b>	<b>Saltash West</b>
John Brady t.07792 941743	Matt Coot t 847542	Richard Bickford t.841119	Bob Austin* t.844666
Joe Ellison* t.849340	Mrs Hilary Frank* t.845114	Martin Gee t.513306	Mrs Gloria Challen t.840620
Bill Phillips t.518176	Mrs Sue Hooper MBE t.843073	Derek Holley* t.845418	Mrs Jean Dent t.303008
Lee Russell t.07966089366	Adam Killeya t.848691	James Shepherd t.847144	David Yates t.843260
Town Clerk: Mr Ray Lane t. 01752 844846 Email: <a href="mailto:enquiries@saltash.gov.uk">enquiries@saltash.gov.uk</a>		* also Cornwall Councillor	