

## **Saltash Regatta and Waterside Festival**

The Saltash Regatta is now in its 184<sup>th</sup> year. The two-day event enjoyed unprecedented success last year being awarded two prizes by local parents in the Primary Times Awards, rating above the Royal Cornwall Show as favourite local festival, and best free local event.

Preparations for this year are well under way to improve yet again on the previous year. This year, the committee are looking to do more to get rid of single-use plastic from the site and to encourage the recycling of any plastics. There is also a renewed effort to incorporate all water side businesses to ensure that the Regatta can be enjoyed across the whole of the waterfront area – from the gigs on Brunel green, right across to the Sailing Club pontoon.

All the favourites from previous years will be there again, including the ton of sand on the slip turning it into a beach, the infamous cardboard boat race which gains in prominence each year, and also a bid to re-establish an inter-council water-based race!

Volunteers and funding are a massive part of ensuring the Regatta weekend can go ahead each year. Sponsorship is becoming increasingly tricky with local businesses still willing to help fund but with smaller budgets available. The event itself couldn't be hosted at all without the funding by the town council or the help of the volunteers during the year and on the weekend itself including cadets and local young people.

The 2019 Regatta takes place on 22/23 June 2019.

Councillor Sarah Martin