

Town Messenger



Edition 25: October 2011

A Message from the Mayor

Dear Residents,

As this is my first Messenger I must begin by thanking our immediate past Mayor and Mayoress, Councillors Adam and Merryn Killeya for all their hard work during their year in office and for leaving everything in good order. On becoming Mayor, I was given some very good advice by several of our past Mayors regarding what to expect during my year in office. I was told to enjoy my year as Mayor as it would go very quickly and before I knew it, I would be choosing the next Mayor. Well, they are absolutely right, as we come to the end of our first quarter in office the time is just flying by. During the past three months, Marilyn and I have attended forty two events in and around Saltash, including concerts, AGMs, Charity events, Festivals and Fetes, school concerts, Birthday parties, a Diamond Wedding and a special Anniversary dinner as well as Civic events in other towns and parishes.

One of the first points I mentioned at my Mayor Choosing in May was that I intended to meet as many Saltash residents as possible during the year.

I am pleased to say that, so far, we have met so many wonderful people at all the events, who have made us feel very welcome and it is wonderful to see so many dedicated residents who give their time so freely to help keep the community spirit of our Town, alive. We are so fortunate to have so many organisations which cater for a variety of needs for young and old alike, within our town and I cannot thank the volunteers enough who display so much enthusiasm and effort for the benefit of others.

As you may be aware, my theme for this year is to encourage the young people of our town to meet and help our more elderly residents. Schools have already responded to this request and I have positive feedback from numerous groups who are prepared to help.

All proceeds from my Mayor's charity events held during my year in office, will be shared mainly between the League of Friends of St Barnabas Hospital, Saltash and Saltash.net Academy Trust with donations also being made to other organisations.

My Mayor's Charity Barn Dance at Saltash.net Academy and my Civic Service at Saltash Wesley Church will already have taken place by the time you read this but look out for details of further events on the website and notice boards around the town!

I am organising a Community Friendship Dinner at the China Fleet Club on Friday 25th November at 7pm. There will be tables of ten and the event will be open to all Saltash organisations, friends, families and anyone else who has an interest in our town. Tickets will be on sale at a cost of £25 each. There will be an excellent choice of food and entertainment during the evening.

Please support the events if you are able as Marilyn and I would be delighted to see you there and you will be most welcome.

With regard to my aims for the community this year, if you are aware of any organisation which may want to be involved or be able to help, please contact the Guildhall and they will pass the information on to me.

I hope to have the opportunity to meet with you, either at the events or in and around Saltash.

Very best wishes,

Councillor Colin Oakes Town Mayor

Saltash Town Council..... YOUR rights to know and influence policy

In common with many other town and parish councils, attendance by the general public at Council meetings is almost non-existent, except for specific planning issues. Your councillors would be pleased to see more Saltash residents at meetings.

- Did you know that residents are entitled to attend every Council meeting ? There is a 15 minute period when you can raise any issue you wish in public (ideally tell the Town Clerk beforehand). You don't have to sit through the entire meeting and you can leave whenever you wish.
- This right also extends to the committee meetings (Civic Amenities, Industry Commerce Transport & Tourism and Policy & Resources)
- You can find out the meeting dates and agendas of matters for discussion on all the Town notice boards, at the Guildhall or on the Town Council website www.saltash.gov.uk

Coming to Town Council meetings might even whet your appetite to become a Councillor, so that you can **really** influence what happens in Saltash. At the moment, all 16 councillors are elected until June 2013 – usually it is for a four year term, but the present council is in the middle of a six year term owing to the 2004 change from Cornwall County to Cornwall (Unitary) Council. Occasionally, vacancies arise through resignations, and these are always shown on the notice boards.

Nor do you **have** to represent a political party – you can stand as an independent, or to lobby on a specific issue. If you want to know how much time it would involve, any of the present councillors would be pleased to talk to you...

Town Centre improvements

A new group called STIG (Saltash Town-centre Improvement Group) has been formed to instigate improvements to the Town Centre, mainly using finance from Section 106 monies (from planning conditions for the Lidl store for instance), or from Town Council rates. In addition to more substantial schemes like proposals for a Town Square, we hope that you have noticed some detailed measures such as :

- A new flagpole which has been erected close to the Brunel statue by the slip road traffic lights
- There are new colourful hanging baskets of flowers throughout the town
- All the flower boats throughout the town have been renovated and planted, often with financial help from local organisations like Rotary, the Lions and SWRA residents association
- The pavements in Fore Street have been pressure-washed
- In order to avoid congestion towards the bottom of Fore Street, the bus bays on both sides will soon be moved by several metres to better positions

...and remember, parking in the Town Centre car parks is FREE after 4.00pm Monday to Saturday and FREE on Sundays...

DIY Road Closures in Saltash

Because of the high costs previously associated with road closures for events like May Fair and Regatta, Saltash Town Council has recently invested in its own official road signs, barriers and road cones. Two Saltash residents have also been trained and accredited to perform road closures.

We have red "Road Closed" and yellow "Diversion" signs, red and white freestanding barriers, and over 100 road cones. This will enable savings of at least £2,000 on annual costs for local events and parades.

If any Saltash organisation needs to close roads for an event, the signage and cones will be available free of charge on loan, and the Council is also willing to hire out the equipment to neighbouring parishes and towns. Enquiries should be made to the Guildhall.

Help us light up Saltash at Christmas !

Our event to switch on the Christmas lights will be held on Saturday December 3rd this year. There will, of course, be the traditional Carol Service at 5:30pm, but this year promises to be extra special with a Victorian theme, an exciting range of street entertainment throughout the afternoon (steam organ, special children's entertainers and the Drakes Den play bus are already booked), and a Community Lantern Parade wending its way up Fore Street to meet the Civic Parade leaving Victoria Gardens at 5pm. The paper lanterns will be created by community groups in workshops hosted by professional artists in the week leading up to the event. We are very keen to make the parade an annual event, and so we're looking for volunteers to come along to this year's workshops. You will learn lantern-making skills and will be the leaders for next year's workshops. If you're interested, please contact the Guildhall. Help us light up Saltash at Christmas !

For the first time, we will also be holding a Christmas Crafts and Gifts Fair for the whole of Saturday, located in Victoria Gardens at the top of Fore Street. As we are keen to make this a success, we are offering standard stall spaces (3m x 3m) at only £15 for the day. Stallholders will need to bring their own gazebos and lighting as there is no electricity supply. If you live in Saltash or district and want a stall, you should contact the Guildhall for a booking form (phone 844846 or email reception@saltash.gov.uk). Charity stalls are not eligible unless selling genuine gifts or crafts.

Ferry 50 and Tamar Bridge Anniversary Celebrations⁴

Make sure you are part of the Ferry 50 Festival at Saltash Waterside on Sunday 23rd October. Starting at 10.00am you will find entertainment, exhibitions and stalls etc. Ashtorre Rock will be providing its infamous ham and egg breakfasts until lunchtime. It is also hosting ferry artefacts and photographs courtesy of Saltash Heritage Museum. There will be a film show running and an opportunity to hear other people's ferry reminiscences and stories as part of the Ferry memory bank. You will also have the chance to add your own memories and stories either written or spoken.

There will be water based entertainment and you will have the opportunity to catch a passenger ferry across the river from lunchtime. Free tickets will be issued on a first come, first served basis. Entertainment is also being arranged at Saltash Passage.

Back at Saltash there will be classic cars and bikes and a top class circus skills workshop. Those showing a special talent may be given the opportunity to show off their new skills as part of the evening circus fire show. The party continues all day with the evening celebrations beginning at about 5.45pm. This will be a full outdoor programme full of light, sound and spectacle— don't miss it ! Look out for further details on posters or visit www.saltashferrylink.com

To celebrate the anniversary of the opening of the Tamar Bridge there will be a firework display which will be co-ordinated with the Ferry 50 celebrations on the evening of 23rd October. The fireworks will begin at 8.00pm—at the end of the free concert and circus fire show. The display will launch from the southern cantilever lane and should be spectacular!

Update on Elwell Woods and the Celtic Cross

Progress has been slower than the Project Team would have wished, but a new Project Management Board is now meeting regularly, with high level representation from Cornwall Council added to members from Saltash Town Council and Saltash Waterfront Residents Association.

Soon tenders will be invited for the three major work packages – manufacture of the Cross, the associated ground works structure, and the woodland improvements. It is hoped that the work will be carried out by regional contractors, and that the woodland works will be carried out later this year, after the bird nesting season.

The total cost of £450,000 is coming from the National Lottery Community Spaces scheme, and the project must be complete by March 2013.

Guildhall refurbishment

As you may have noticed Saltash Guildhall has been undergoing a refurbishment programme. The works consist of repairs to the roof, windows and exterior plaster work as well as a total repaint of the exterior which will be a shade darker than the current colour. There will also be some minor works to the inside of the building. As we go to press the newly painted building is due to be revealed as the scaffolding comes down!

Once the fabric of the building has been brought up to standard works will begin on the internal flooring. This project will restore the building back to its former state as the seat of the town.

Dates for your diary...

Sunday 23rd October—Ferry 50 celebrations
Friday 25th November—Community Friendship Dinner at the China Fleet Country Club
Saturday 3rd December—Christmas lights switch on & Craft Fair

Beating the Bounds for the Jubilee

This is very advanced notice that we will be repeating the successful Beating the Bounds walk last held two years ago. For Saltash boundaries, this is more exciting than for most towns - starting at Moditonham Quay, we walk to Notter Bridge, then jump on a bus to St Germans. There we will be picked up by a chartered ferry to cruise the Lynher boundary, and turn up the Tamar back to Moditonham. The date will be the Queens Jubilee on Bank Holiday Monday, June 4th 2012. Watch future editions of the Messenger for booking details.

Do you want to complain about your NHS care or treatment?

The Independent Complaints Advocacy Service (ICAS) offers free support and information to help patients and their relatives complain using the NHS Complaints Procedure. We can give you the tools to present your own complaint, provide you with information on how the NHS Complaints Procedure works and what to expect. ICAS is a confidential client-led service that will respect your choices and only express your views.

New Saltash NHS Dentist

The Town Council has been advised that there is a significant wait at this new practice. If you wish to go on the waiting list please call the Primary Care Trust on 01726 627990; there may be other practices in the area that may have a shorter list. If in the meantime you require urgent dental treatment, ie in pain or have suffered dental trauma, please call 01872 354375.

Are you on the Electoral Roll? Don't lose your right to vote!

Every year Cornwall Council conducts a review of the Electoral Register. All households should have received a registration form by 1st September and by law, you must complete and return this form even if you do not intend or qualify to vote. If you have not received your form a replacement can be requested by telephoning 0300 123 1115.

You should either confirm your details if they are correct or use the form to notify any amendments. If you do not respond your name may not be included in the revised register. This means that you will not be allowed to vote and may affect your credit rating.

If you need to make changes you must return the form in the envelope provided but if you are confirming your details this can be done by ringing a freephone number, using the online service or even by text! Visit the Cornwall Council website for further details.

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

St Stephens Ward

Bob Austin*	Tel:	844666
Richard Bickford	Tel:	841119
Peter Stephens	Tel:	844846
David Yates	Tel:	843260

* indicates Cornwall Councillor

Cornwall Councillors

Bryan Preston	Tel:	848240
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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

Quiz

Question 1...What is this all about ?...”the people came so fast...both men and horses were so brutish...they leapt in like dogs...it became quite a battle to get in first by fair means or foul “

Clue : this probably happened every day until 1832 when the first one arrived at the Waterside.

Question 2...What is this about?”the animal carcasses were brought in, then skinned and cut up, they were treated in pits, scraped and hung out to dry. Where did it take place? You have probably driven past lots of times!

Don't forget...The Guildhall is part of the Community Toilet Scheme and facilities (accessible to wheelchair users) are available on the ground floor for public use during opening hours.