#### **Public Document Pack**



The Guildhall 12 Lower Fore Street Saltash PL12 6JX

Telephone: 01752 844846 www.saltash.gov.uk

24 February 2023

#### Dear Councillor

I write to summon you to the **Annual Town Meeting with Parishioners of Saltash** to be held at the Guildhall on **Thursday 2nd March 2023 at 6.30 pm**.

The meeting is open to members of the public and press. Any member of the public requiring to put a question to the Town Council must do so by **12 noon the day before the meeting** either by email to <a href="mailto:enquiries@saltash.gov.uk">enquiries@saltash.gov.uk</a> or sent to The Guildhall, 12 Lower Fore Street, Saltash PL12 6JX. Please provide your full name and indicate if you will be present at the meeting.

Yours sincerely,

Councillor R Bickford

Mayor of Saltash 2022-2023

#### To:

• • •		
Essa	Tamar	Trematon
R Bickford (Chairman)	VACANCY	S Miller
J Brady	J Dent	B Samuels
R Bullock	S Gillies	D Yates
J Foster	S Martin	B Stoyel
M Griffiths	J Peggs (Vice-Chairman)	
S Lennox-Boyd	P Samuels	

#### **Agenda**

- 1. Health and Safety Announcements
- 2. Apologies.
- 3. Declarations of Interest:
  - a. To receive any declarations from Members of any registerable (5A of the Code of Conduct) and/or non-registerable (5B) interests in matters to be considered at this meeting.
  - b. The Town Clerk to receive written requests for dispensations prior to the start of the meeting for consideration.
- 4. To receive and approve the minutes of the Annual Town Council Meeting with Parishioners of Saltash held on 3rd March 2022 as a true and correct record.
- 5. Chairman's Annual Report. (Page 5)
- 6. Annual Crime Figures. (Pages 6 7)
- 7. Cornwall Council Annual Report. (Pages 8 9)
- 8. Reports from organisations:

Thank you to all the organisations for booking a stand at the Town Council's Shop Your Town event. We look forward to welcoming our residents on the night.

- a. Age UK (Pages 10 17)
- b. Community Enterprises PL12; (Pages 18 22)
- c. Livewire; (Pages 23 24)
- d. The Mabbot Trust; (Page 25)
- e. Saltash Area Road Safety Committee; (Pages 26 27)
- f. Saltash Chamber of Commerce; (Page 28)
- g. Saltash Environment Action; (Pages 29 30
- h. Saltash Gateway Community Network Area; (Pages 31 32)
- i. Saltash Heritage; (Pages 33 34)
- j. Saltash Neighbourhood Plan; (Page 35)
- k. Saltash Regatta Committee; (Pages 36 38)

- I. Saltash May Fair Committee; (Pages 39 40)
- m. Tamar Valley AONB; (Pages 41 88)
- n. Visit Tamar Valley; (Page 89)
- o. The Core Youth Project; (Pages 90 92)
- p. Saltash Youth Council; (Pages 93 94)
- q. Safer Saltash; (Pages 95 98)
- r. Town Team; (Page 99)
- s. Surfers Against Sewage; (Page 100)
- t. Saltash Bowls Club; (Page 101)
- u. Pysanka Craft Club; (Page 102)
- v. Saltash Foodbank; (Pages 103 104)
- w. Saltash Rotary Club; (Pages 105 106)
- x. Saltash and District Branch of the Royal British Legion; (Page 107)
- y. The Joint Patient Participation Groups (PPGS) of Port View and Saltash Health Centre; (Page 108)
- 9. Questions from the public.
- 10. To note the date of the next Annual Town Meeting with Parishioners of Saltash to be held on 7th March 2024 at 6:30p.m.

#### **Annual Report Mayor's introduction**

It has been my honour to serve as Mayor of Saltash for 2022-23. I have thoroughly enjoyed all the visits I have made, performances I have watched and events I have attended.

It has been a challenging year in many ways, the Town Council has supported, in whatever way we can those affected by the ongoing conflict in Ukraine, those close to home who have and continue to struggle in the current cost of living crisis and those still affected by the pandemic.

I would like to thank my wife Sarah who has supported me throughout the year as Mayoress, Deputy Mayor Councillor Julia Peggs and all my fellow Councillors for their support over the year. I would also like to thank the staff of Saltash Town Council who work hard to deliver services in challenging times.

My chosen local organisations to support for the year were Saltash Sailing Club Cadets and Saltash Environmental Action (SEA).

Saltash Sailing Club Cadets provide a friendly and accessible club for under 18s to learn to sail. It not only offers sailing tuition, but qualifications, coaching in racing and the chance to make new friends and learn lifelong skills.

SEA is a group of volunteers who run many environmentally friendly initiatives in the town. These include litter picking, the community allotment and free events open to the community.

There have been a lot of memorable events this year, the platinum Jubilee celebrations where over 5000 people came to celebrate on Jubilee Green. My fellow Councillors organised the Beating of the Bounds event in honour of the Platinum Jubilee, which was a great success. The town also came together after the sad passing of HRH the Late Queen Elizabeth II and many residents and visitors came to the Guildhall and Library Hub to sign the books of condolence.

This year has had an emphasis on the environment, new trees have been planted in conjunction with SEA including the Darley Oak on Jubilee Green for the Platinum Jubilee and trees at Saltash Library Hub. We continue to plant and nurture wildflower areas across the town and encourage residents and visitors to be aware of the environment.

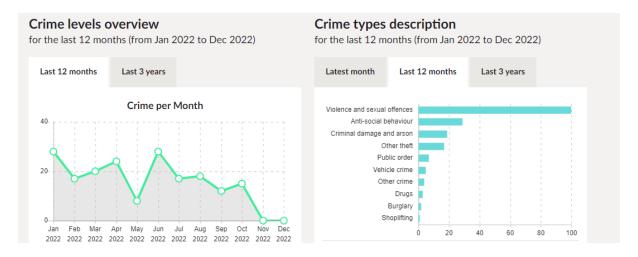
Saltash Town Council continues to work hard to deliver services under challenging financial times. The budget has increased by 4.15% which is 16 pence per week for an average band D property.

Councillor Richard Bickford
Chairman of Saltash Town Council 2022-23

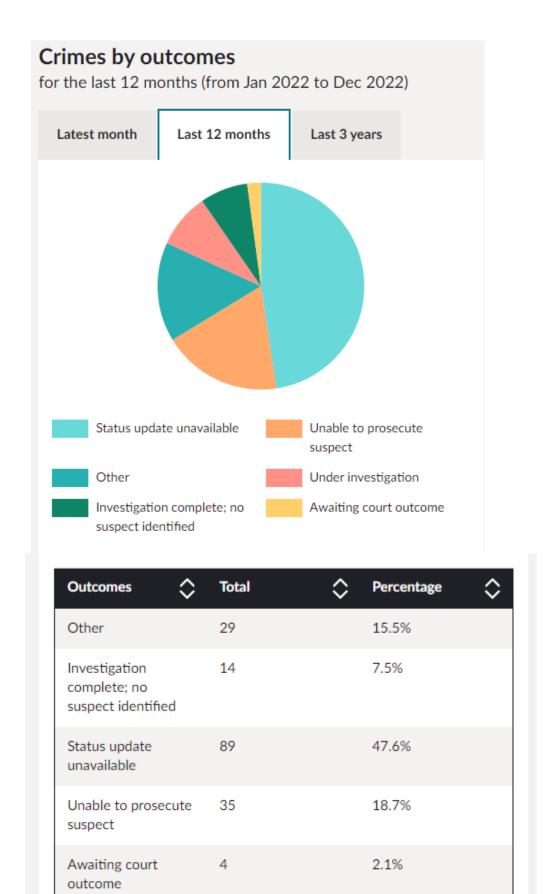
#### **Annual Crime Figures**

Due to the transition of the new system and associated changes to processes, policies and procedures there will be no meaningful performance data for approximately 6 months whilst the new system and processes are embedded on the police.uk website.

Therefore, please note the Crime Figure Data received is from January 2022 until October 2022.



Type 🔷	Total 💠	Percentage 🔷
Anti-social behaviour	29	15.5%
Criminal damage and arson	19	10.2%
Other theft	17	9.1%
Violence and sexual offences	100	53.5%
Burglary	2	1.1%
Vehicle crime	5	2.7%
Other crime	4	2.1%
Drugs	3	1.6%
Public order	7	3.7%
Shoplifting	1	0.5%



8.6%

End of report.

Under investigation

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#### **Cornwall Councillors - Annual Report to Saltash Town Council 2023**

Cornwall Council Business Plan. 2022/26

It highlights our Mission in Working with Communities for a carbon neutral Cornwall, where everyone can start well, live well and age well.

We have four key priority outcomes

- 1. A brilliant place to be a child and grow up
- 2. In a thriving, sustainable Cornwall
- 3. With vibrant, safe and supportive communities
- 4. All supported by an empowering and enterprising Council that delivers great value for money

The link to include to the full document to show the details

<u>Council Business Plan 2022-2026 Budget 2022-23 and MTFP - Appendix 1 Council Business Plan 2022-26.pdf (cornwall.gov.uk)</u>

The second part to include our responsibilities and activities.

#### Details are here

Councillor details - Hilary Frank - Cornwall Council

Councillor details - Sheila Lennox-Boyd - Cornwall Council

Cllr. Martin Worth

Councillor details - Martin Worth - Cornwall Council

Saltash, Trematon & Landrake Division

100% attendance record

Providing day to day support to approx. 5,500 residents, includes the new Treledan development. Working closely with the new developers for the delivery of whole community benefits.

Dept Portfolio Holder – Transport (until 15<sup>th</sup> Nov 2022)

Focus on improving Community Bus Usage to bring surrounding parish residents into Saltash and integration with existing rail & bus services

 Economic, Growth and Development Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Chairman, Voted in 15<sup>th</sup> Nov 2022)

<u>Committee details - Economic Growth and Development Overview and Scrutiny Committee - Cornwall Council</u>

Focus on the Portfolios of Housing & Planning, Transport, Economic Development

• Tamar Bridge and Torpoint Ferry Joint Committee (Co-Chair) Cornwall Council

I have secured a future meeting with the Secretary of State for Transport, The Rt Hon Mark Harper in Cornwall for the Future of Tamar Crossings. Delivering our new future business plan in June 23 with Local Partnerships to enter negotiations with the DFT and National Highways.

 Customer and Support Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee - Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Working Group

<u>Committee details - Customer and Support Services Overview and Scrutiny</u> Committee - Cornwall Council

Being one of 5 cross party councillors in Delivering a new strategy document in Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Item CSCS/39

Agenda for Customer and Support Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee on Tuesday, 6th December, 2022, 10.00 am - Cornwall Council

Chairing a cross party working group for a review of Digital Inclusion for all of Cornwall Council. Item CSCS/31

Agenda for Customer and Support Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee on Tuesday, 18th October, 2022, 10.00 am - Cornwall Council

Strategic Planning Committee for Cornwall Council

Championing the emerging 5% Community Revenue Share from new Enviormental Generation Projects

• Executive Member of Tamar Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)

Working closely with our farming community for the project delivery of Farming In Protected Landscapes FIPL.

Securing the funding and ordering the new Electric Ferry for Calstock and future routes down the River Tamar

Mount Edgcumbe Joint Committee

Securing agreement with Plymouth City Council the development of Beryl Electric Bikes to come to SE Cornwall

Beryl, A bike & scooter sharing scheme in UK towns and cities

- Chairman Landulph Parish Council
- Councillor Advocate of Devon & Cornwall Police and Crime Commissioner
- Saltash Area Road Safety Group
- Safer38

#### **End of Report**

#### Agenda Item 8a

#### **REPORT FROM AGE UK**

Gateway is Age UK's new Helpline supporting people across Cornwall:

Open: 7 days per week, 365 days per year.

Times: 0800-2000

The following link gives access to Gateway Age UK:

https://www.ageuk.org.uk/cornwall/our-services/community-gateway/

#### **The Community Gateway**

A 7-day point of access to a wide range of voluntary sector support.

Unsure where to go for local voluntary sector help, information and support activities?

The Gateway will operate 7 days a week.

The Gateway has escalation routes and connections to Virtual Wards, GPs, mental health support and safeguarding.

8am - 8pm

Call:

01872 266383

7 days a week

#### It is your gateway to:

- Prevention and anticipatory care
- Personalised 'what matters to you' conversations
- Admission avoidance
- Discharge planning and support
- Wellbeing activities
- Community hubs
- Winter support including hot food and warm spaces
- Falls prevention.

Working with a wide range of voluntary sector organisations, it's designed for everyone who needs community support

#### **Your Community Gateway**

Figures from 7 November - 31 December 2022

The Community Gateway is a dedicated telephone line available for everyone - providing access to a wide range of services and voluntary sector support.

#### It starts with a conversation

2,767 connections

including 2,157 calls and 610 email referrals











#### You matter

## 1,153 support plans

100% of these actioned within 72 hours - the majority within 12 hours

01872 266383

gateway@ageukcornwall.org.uk

A new helpline for support and advice. 8am - 8pm, 7 days a week, 365 days a year

# Working across Cornwall Connections by area (Nov) Connections by area (Dec)) Central North & East West The Community Gateway is building on existing partnerships to provide seamlesss support across Cornwall.



#### **Stories from the Gateway**

We have collected case studies, quotes and community stories that showcase the early impact of the Gateway.

View here





Visit the website for more information:

Community Gateway -Cornwall Link (cornwalllink.co.uk)





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#### **People**

- ♦ <u>14,619</u> calls to our Helpline
- ♦ 35,634 calls to our Transport Helpline
- £ 862,924 gained in Annual Benefits for clients
- 98% of people calling our Helplines were satisfied with our service
- Cornwall Link has <u>600</u>
   community listings, <u>27,957</u>
   views and 1,250 members

#### **Developing Partnerships**

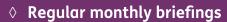
- **♦ Macmillan Cancer Support**
- **Inclusion Matters**
- **◊ Inclusivity Project**



- Cornwall Link
- ♦ The 4C's Campaign
- **◊ Interreg Europe**
- **♦ Cornwall Council**
- **♦ Cornwall's Veterans (VSNBF)**

## Jan 1st - Dec 31st Our Impact in 2022 Our Team







- Wellbeing and Mental Health Support for all teams
- H&S protocols & PPE guidance for all services
- ♦ Recruited 25 new staff
- Developed a network of Community Hubs

#### **Our Community Impact**



 Our Transport Services completed <u>67,658</u> journeys



- ♦ 41,696 trips for Supported Travel
- Over <u>30,000</u> people helped to receive Vaccinations



- 9,734 sessions at our Community Hubs
- ♦ Over <u>2,000 Meals prepared</u>



- Over <u>500</u> enquiries for Step into Wellness Programme
- Our Electric Vehicles have completed <u>6,150</u> Health & Wellbeing trips



6,317 hrs Home Support
 1,525 hrs Gardening
 913 hrs Companionship
 525 hrs Outreach



- <u>62</u> Veterans supported
- 210 Clients helped via our Macmillan Cancer Service

Over 55,000 people supported across Cornwall

# Step into Wellness



## Improving health & wellbeing for Cornwall



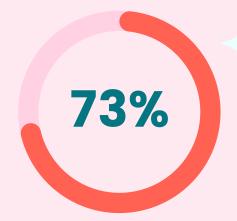
75% of referrals received to SiW are female, with 22.8% male.

Seven in 10 people were referred by social prescribers, community coaches and Age UK Cornwall staff who work in local communities.



"I cannot thank you enough, my mind, body and self all feel great. What a change!"

Digital Cafe attendee



An amazing 73% of people shared that they had a meaningful positive change after joining one of our sessions.

#### **Better High Wellbeing**

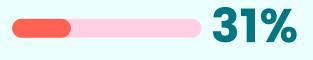
Before joining SiW - only 6% of people stated that they had High Wellbeing - after it was 31%

**Reducing Low Wellbeing** 

Before joining SiW - over 64% of people stated that they had Low Wellbeing - after our intervention, this was improved to 30%

**Age Range** 

51% of people referred to SiW fall in the 55-85 age range, with 11.4% in the 85+ range.



**30%** 

**51%** 



242 people completed full health & wellbeing assessments with Age UK Cornwall.

We have touched the lives of over 500 people, greatly improving mental and physical wellbeing across Cornwall.



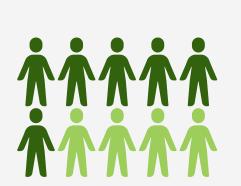
www.ageuk.org.uk/cornwall/our-services/step-into-wellness/

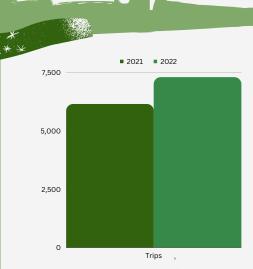
We want to say a huge thank you to our partners in the voluntary & community sector. Page \$43 - The Chaos Group; Anchor Living; Liskerret Community Centre; Digital Inclusion Cornwall, The Community Hub Network and Volunteer Cornwall.

### **OUR IMPACT 2022** Sustainable Transport **Project in Cornwall 2022**

#### A SERVICE FOR YOU

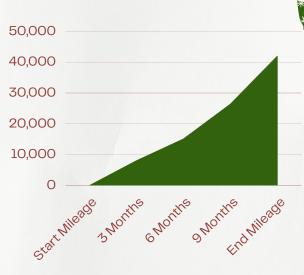
In 2022, our 7 Electric Vehicles received 7,298 bookings. This service was essential in providing food, prescriptions, and ongoing support in Cornwall. It also helped people get to health appts, social trips, community hubs and warm spaces.





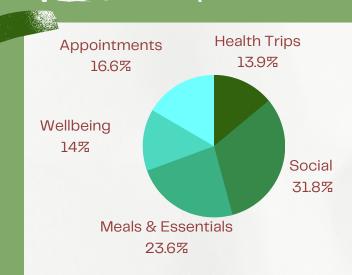
#### **INCREASING YOUR SUPPORT**

In 2022, our reach continues to increase - supporting more people and communities than ever before - an increase of 1,148 trips



#### Racking up the willes

Our 7 Electric Vehicles covered 41,970 miles within Cornish Communities



#### You Matter

From 1,017 health appointments to 2,323 social trips and outings - we wrap the service around you!

#### What we do

We have 7 Electric Vehicles and 8 designated Charge Points in Penzance, Camborne, Truro, Falmouth, Newquay, St Austell and Lanivet. They are based in community hubs and GP surgeries. They provide fully accessible, low-cost, environmentally-friendly transport for local groups, hubs & individuals.

"I cannot thank you enough, our swimming group wouldn't have started without your support - we will need you again in 2023" Maggie

#### Reach

In 2022, we trained **54** people to use our **Electric Vehicles. A** huge thank you to our wonderful Volunteers, Care Workers & Health **Professionals!** 



#### Who we are

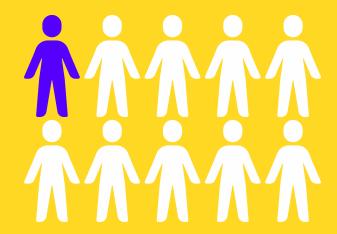


Picture from Ukrainian support trips - the EV is delivering essential items to a distribution centre in St Austell - 1 of 20 trips from local collection hubs

All dat pe end collated via our Electric Vehicle Trip Records. The reporting period was between

1st Jan 2022 to 31st December 2022

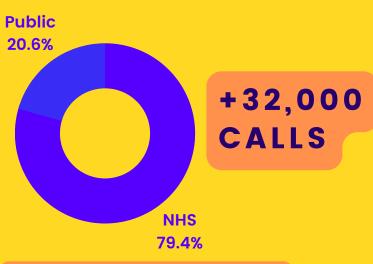
# Transport Access People Supporting You in 2022



TAP (Transport Access People) arrange door-to-door transport for people who have difficulty accessing other forms of transport in Cornwall and South Devon.



We specialise in non-emergency healthcare journeys, such as; Renal, Cardio, Vaccinations, Ophthalmology, GP appointments and more.



In 2022, you called our Transport Helpline 32,435 times. 25,760 calls from people in Cornwall & Devon, and 6,675 calls from health professionals.



"Your driver was so supportive during a difficult & challenging time. He has the biggest heart - thank you."

Mary - Renal Patient

#### Completion Rate 98% of bookings were completed

Volunteers

In 2022, we trained 21 new volunteers - taking our total volunteers to 116

Discharge Support We helped 281 people get safely home from hospital 98%



115



281

TAP relies on its highly skilled transport helpline and its professional and caring volunteer drivers. TAP has been supporting people and local communities with reliable, professional & affordable transport solutions for over 20 years

Volunteer or find out more about TAP <a href="https://www.ageuk.org.uk/cornwall/get-involved/volunteer/volunteer-driver/">www.ageuk.org.uk/cornwall/get-involved/volunteer/volunteer-driver/</a>

TAP ACCESS PEOPLE

## Community Transport

Who we are

Figures from Jan 22 - Dec 22



"Your dial-a-ride has provided me with more freedom, greater independence and connected me with my friends - thank you" Mary



41,970

miles of support across Cornwall



69

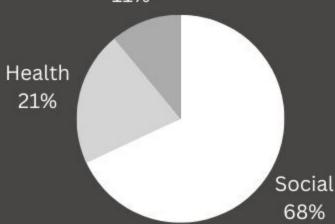
In 2022, we trained 69 volunteer community drivers

TTTT

7,298

transport bookings

Wellbeing Trips 11%



68%

of our trips were social outings, with a further 21% health-related and 11% were for meals & wellbeing support





Transport is an essential requirement for most people. For those who are vulnerable and often living in a rural community, it becomes a major factor in their ability to remain independent and connected. TAP (Transport Access People) arrange door-to-door transport for people across Cornwal. From trips to churches & community venues to outings with friends to meal deliveries & wellbeing services to shopping excursions... and more

Page 16 Learn more about TAP here

#### Agenda Item 8b

Community Enterprises PL12 Annual Report, Year to February 2023

The last year has been a time of change and turbulence, globally, nationally and locally. Community Enterprises PL12 has been no exception. Over the last twelve months we have taken on a new premises, new Directors, staff and volunteers. All of these changes have had an impact on our organisation, but, as this report demonstrates, we have risen to every challenge.

#### Governance

Last September, Jo Baskott stood down from her positions of Chair and Kitchen Director, over the years she had worked tirelessly for our organisation, her dedication, enthusiasm and energy have had a significant impact across the PL12 community, and will continue to do so in the future. I was elected as Chair at our AGM in September and hope to continue to continue to develop our Enterprises.

David Bremner also stood down from his positions of Finance, Digital Inclusion and joint Dementia Voice Director. During his time with us his commitment and vision helped to shape our organisation and enabled us to plan more effectively for the future.

Over the last twelve months our team has been strengthened by the appointment of two new Directors: Cathy Jane joined us as Shop Director and Melanie Cowie joined us last summer as Marketing director. They have both had a positive impact on the running of our organisation and have evolved and developed their roles over the last twelve months..

#### Financial

The economic climate has been, and continues to be, a cause for concern (both nationally and closer to hand). Fortunately we are getting back on our feet following COVID, but are well aware of the challenges to come in the future. Although we are a 'not for profit' organisation, we do need to cover the growing cost of our overheads, we rely totally on donations and grant funding to ensure we can continue to provide our invaluable support through our various enterprises. We are always on the lookout for someone with experience in accessing funding in order to strengthen our financial situation.

#### Operations:

With ever changing and increasing legislation, together with our expansion, we recognised the need to have an Operations Director and Manager. Al Marks, previously Shop Manager, has taken on the role of Ops Manager and has risen to this challenge amazingly, together with the Ops Director he is working through the lengthy list of policies and statutory requirements to ensure we are fully compliant.

#### Transport;

The year got off to a slow start, however recent months have shown a great uptake on people benefitting from the wide range of trips we have to offer. We now have a dedicated 'trips team' who research different destinations that appeal to a wider section of our community .

Our weekly shopper has been extended to include Landulph, again the popularity has increased and our 'Shopper Hopper' is regularly full.

The biggest change over the last twelve months have been the number of local organisations who are now hiring out our buses to enhance their own activities, these include local schools, the bowling club, U3A, Live at Home to name but a few. We also support Town events whenever possible, we provided a shuttle service to the Waterside during the Regatta and transport for the Mayor and his entourage on Remembrance Sunday.. We are thrilled that we can provide them with this much needed support.

Our small bus continues to be regularly used to pick up produce to support the Community Fridge and Larder. Our volunteer drivers give freely of their

time to make sure that we can benefit from the food rather than it ending up in landfill.

#### Community Shop: No 4

Our Community Shop provides an outlet for over 25 local crafters who are able to make use of our space to promote their wares. We have a range of Saltash themed products that promote our town and make lovely souvenirs and gifts. We have a group of 'eco crafters' who meet on a weekly basis, they have made 377 Mors Bags (to date), these are reusable, original bags using recycled material and can be collected free of charge from No 4.

No 4 is also a Community Hub, providing information about local activities, we also continue to take bookings for Hopper Trips and events in No 8.

#### Community Kitchen: No 8

After months of planning and tremendous support from Weatherhead Shopfitters we were thrilled to open our Community Kitchen last spring. Chris Cook was appointed as our Kitchen Manager and, together with an impressive set of knives, joined us in the summer. Along with a team of volunteers, he provides a warm welcome alongside refreshments and hot food

This venture is supported by Waitrose, Lidl, Co-op, FareShare, Origin Coffee, Rowes Pasty Shop and Tamlyns' sausages, the food they donate enables us to provide tea, cakes and hot meals using food that would otherwise have gone into landfill.

We were aware that there was a need for this facility, but have still been taken aback by how quickly we have become a part of the local community. A range of groups use our space to deliver their own services, including Chatter and Natter, Your Voice, Mandown, a Dementia Voice lunch club and, very recently a stroke support group. We also have regular visits from the therapy dogs and one off events that have included a community play and art exhibition.

Last autumn we were thrilled to receive funding to enable us to become a 'warm space' for people suffering from fuel or food poverty. Throughout the cold winter months we have provided a safe, warm space for many members of our community. Everyone is welcomed and are sure to receive a warm welcome from our wonderful volunteers.

#### Community Fridge

The Community Fridge now operates from No 8, this has enabled us to review the opening times as we are now no longer tied to the shop hours. Over the year we have maintained the uptake of people visiting the fridge, however the amount of food we receive varies from day to day. Sam Gardner has taken over as Director with responsibility for the Community Kitchen and Fridge, this means that the two enterprises are now working in tandem for the benefit of all.

#### Community Liaison

One of our key aims is to work with other organisations and community groups to further enhance the life of those living and working in the PL12. area Cathy Jane has taken on the role of Community Liaison Director, she is fast establishing links with a wide range people to ensure we can complement their services. This role is in its infancy but she has already made a number of contacts that are keen to work with us.

#### Dementia Voice:

Our DV group continues to grow and thrive. The café takes place on a weekly basis providing a safe space for people living with dementia to meet others for a drink and a chat. We have recently moved the venue to Ashtorre Rock, our hopper buses and volunteer drivers make sure that everyone is able to attend the new location. This has had a positive impact as we are now able to transport people from outlying parishes who, previously, were unable to

make the journey. Thanks to funding from the Co-op we are able to organise trips for the group, they recently enjoyed lunch at Strawberry Fields near Lifton which gave everyone a much appreciated day out.

Our vibrant singing group meets twice a month at the Wesley Church, led by an incredibly talented facilitator we have a regular attendance of 20+ people who create an amazing sound. We would love to showcase their talents by developing a DV choir in the future.

Our veterans group meets every other Saturday at the SHADO Centre, we regularly have over 30 people attending, they thoroughly enjoy their supper and entertainment organised by our volunteers.

Whilst Rose Edwards and Carol Emmett stood down as Directors, they continue to devote much time and energy to ensuring all our activities can continue to thrive.

The lack of a permanent Director means that we have not been able to expand as we would have liked. We would dearly love to resume a group for people living with cognitive impairment, but need someone with enthusiasm to lead this venture.

18 Belle Vue Road. We now have 7 occupiers in the building along with a small office used for our own administration. The income received supports our other enterprises and enables them to remain viable.

#### IT

We are thrilled that our website is now up and running the number of views increase on a regular basis. Hopefully we will be able to take advantage of the on line booking system to support all our events. Please check out <a href="https://www.cep112.co.uk">www.cep112.co.uk</a> Melanie Cowie, our Marketing Director, has developed our Facebook pages and posts information about our activities on a regular basis.

#### Volunteers

With the exception of three paid members of staff, we are totally run by volunteers at all levels, without their amazing contribution we wouldn't be able to function!

We are always on the lookout for more people to join our team, and have revised the way we induct potential volunteers to make sure we are able to put their skills and expertise to good use.

We are widening the range of volunteering opportunities we can offer, and now have work experience and DofE students involved in our work.

We are all appreciative of the time and enthusiasm so many people devote to support our ventures, in December we held a special event to say thank you to our volunteers. Over 40 people attended on the evening and enjoyed a range of tasty snacks and mulled cider, our local traders also contributed to the evening by donating prizes for a raffle, this was very much appreciated by all.

#### Conversion to CIO

Our last application to the Charities Commission was, sadly, unsuccessful, however undaunted we have not given up on our aspiration to become a charity and have been working hard on a new submission. This has proved to be a lengthy, complicated process — despite devoting much time to the application, we are still not ready to submit it. Hopefully we are nearing a resolution as we believe gaining charitable status will make a significant difference to services we can provide to support the PL12 community.

#### Other news:

For the last year we have been able to support the number of Ukranian refugees who have sought safety in SE Cornwall, we were a collection point

for donations which were shipped out to Ukraine and hosted a number of events, including celebrating their National Day with food and music from Ukraine. We also supported the Outreach Paramedics who delivered two ambulances and provided training earlier this year. We provided refreshments to the large number of supporters who waved them off on their journey, it was an emotional moment. Thankfully they have now completed their mission and are home safely. We will continue to provide support whenever we can in the future.

#### To the future:

It is hard to believe, but April 5<sup>th</sup> sees the one year anniversary of the opening of our Community Kitchen, it's amazing to reflect on how much we have accomplished in this time! We are planning a 'thank you' event for all our sponsors who have supported us along the way for, without them,. we would not be in the fortunate position we are in.

March  $5^{\text{th}}$  is the most important day in the Cornish calendar: St Piran's Day. As this falls on a Sunday this year, we are planning to celebrate all things Cornish in No 8 on Saturday  $4^{\text{th}}$  March. Thanks for the generosity of Rowes, we are going to have a pasty lunch followed by scones for afternoon tea (jam first, obviously!)

Both No 4 and No 8 provide a warm, safe space for many in our community, on March  $22^{\rm nd}$ , Age UK are organising an information day which will take place in our Community Kitchen.

We would love to open our doors to children and young people before and after school in order to provide a warm, safe space where they can have a chat and something to eat. To this end we have been working with Live Wire to explore setting up a 'munch club,' run by older students and youth workers.

We have also been working with Groundwork Trust and Saltash.net to reinvigorate the gardening project at the school, we are hopeful that we can restart this venture that will see students and volunteers working together. This also coincides with our annual seed swap, thanks to local seed suppliers we have a wide number of seeds to give away with the hope that they will provide fresh produce for the fridge and kitchen in the summer months.

We are planning a number of fundraising events to take place in No 8, currently we have funding to provide cookery demonstrations focusing on cooking food from scratch these are in the planning stage at the moment but we are hopeful we can begin monthly sessions in March.

We are also holding our first Quiz Night in March, check out our Facebook page for more information - hopefully you will be able to join in some of our events.

Finally, as we have expanded, our reliance on volunteers has also grown, we could not operate without the amazing band of people who give freely of their time to support us.

Our Directors work tirelessly behind the scenes to make sure that we can continue to thrive and develop. Currently we are looking to recruit three more Directors, specific roles include managing our Community Shop and Hub, leading Dementia Voice into the future and supporting financial management. The roles are crucial to the smooth running of CEPL12, but are also immensly rewarding.

This report clearly demonstrates the enormous progress we have made this year, we can look forward to the next twelve months with optimism.

Jo Grail Chair CEPL12 'Together we can, together we do.'
War-barth 'gan gallos War-barth 'gan gwul

#### Report for Saltash Town Council for 2022 from Livewire youth project

Another year on and the young people of this town and surrounding areas continue to inspire and amaze us with their commitment, motivation and zest for life and all that it can offer.

We have also experienced many young people in need during this past year whether because of the rise in living costs or because of ill mental health or both, but we have been delighted to be in the privileged position to be able to go some way at least towards meeting those needs.

At Livewire we have been opening 5 evenings a week and our delivery is:

Monday evening: 7 to 9.30 open access for young people aged 13 to 21

Tuesday evening: 7 to 9 young womens music session ages 12 to 21

Wednesday evening: 6.30 to 8.30 Junior club for school years 6 to 8

Thursday evening: 7 to 9.30 open access for young people aged 13 to 21

Friday evening: 6 to 8 wellbeing group (for particularly anxious young people) age 13 to 21

Saturday: 10am to 4pm recording session for young people from year 6 upwards

Young people that come to Livewire can access music lessons which include, guitar, vocals, bass, drums, keyboard and music technology (which includes live sound, sound technology and music production) Young people can also engage with the youth work team on a variety of activities and single issue programmes. We also offer one to one youth work support which is probably the most crucial part of the role of a youth worker. We also run a counselling service which young people can be referred to or self refer to.

This last year has been particularly busy and for the first time ever in November 2022 we had to stop new members at our junior club because we passed 100 attendees each week.

At the beginning of 2022 we started a recycling fashion project because a few of the young people were concerned about the environment and clothes that were going to landfill. The initial intention was to have a few fashion shows to draw attention to this. However it has grown and with the fast fashion that was recently on the news and as the cost of living has risen it has taken off in a big way with some young people just taking the clothes away that have been donated and recycle them that way whilst others are using what has been donated to create new designs.

We have also been both amazed and truly blessed by the generosity of this community when we began feeding young people following an incident when a young woman collapsed from hunger whilst at Livewire. We were devastated and started to make soup and offer

that and toast to young people that came here. We have been inclusive with this sighting the cold as the main reason so that nobody feels singled out. The community kitchen now brings us food on Monday's. We have also had donations from the sailing club as well as members of the public so this has truly become a community concern. And most importantly young people are not leaving Livewire hungry.

We were also involved in the Mayfair of 2022 having young people perform on the stage and we also had a presence in the Victoria garden area where the youth organisations from around the town showcased their projects, young people also performed at Saltash regatta and again at Boardmasters where we had 130 young people performing from all over Cornwall over the 4 days of the festival.

We again secured funding from Saltash Town Council towards the youth work at Livewire and we are approaching the end of the first years funding from the big lottery fund that awarded us £219 thousand over 5 years for our heart 'n' soul project. We also had another year's contribution from AC/DC of £11 thousand amongst other donors who have given generously to keep us able to provide local young people with the invaluable service that we offer.

We are ever grateful to all the donors that keep Livewire open, we would also thank everyone that works here both paid and voluntary. We are also grateful to the wonderful team of volunteers that make up our management committee and trustees but mostly we are grateful as always to the young people that attend Livewire and give purpose and inspiration to all that we do.

#### Agenda Item 8d

#### Report - Mabbott Trust

The Mabbott Trust is a small local charity mostly supporting the school children of Saltash. As an example, to help cover the cost of school trips when parents are finding it difficult to cover these extra costs. Usually this is done by requests from schools.

This year at least one donation has been made to the local food bank for food and fuel.

End of Report Jean Dent

#### Annual Report from the Saltash Area Road Safety Committee ,March 2023

Saltash Town Council, St Germans and Polbathic PC, Landulph PC, Botus Fleming and Hatt

PC and Landulph PC have attended nearly all meetings. Cornwall Councillors are also usually in attendance where they are able. The police have not been represented at meetings but have when requested sent reports. We have had visits from Cormac to give specialist advice.

The Speedwatch team is not yet up and running so have been unable to give reports. This is because of a change within the parent organisation which is based at Plymouth police, Crownhill. However a new coordinator has been appointed within the police and progress is now anticipated. Cornwall Councillor Hilary Frank is organising from this end.

Vice chairman Councillor Martin Worth from Landulph Expressed has his thanks to Saltash Town Council for hosting the area meetings.

A major item, each meeting is the progress on improvements to the A38 between Saltash and Trerulefoot. The situation at the moment is that minor changes to the road are about to be implemented, but the committee has written to National Highways urging that these changes be regarded only as minor tweaks, and that a proper solution to the problems along the road should be incorporated into a proper scheme.

The basic problem with this road remains and the committee requests that the Town Council, when the opportunity arises, makes these points to Cornwall Council and National Highways representatives. These points leading to regular delays and accidents are the combination of very high volumes of traffic, continuing changes in gradient, many changes of direction at the bottom and tops of hills, poor visibility because of the terrain, changes in width, drivers frustration because of these factors and because of the lack of overtaking of slow vehicles of which there are many, a low bridge causing high vehicles to divert through unsuitable country lanes, two split communities, Landrake and Tideford, the latter of which also suffers from severe air pollution as well as inadequate and dangerous pedestrian crossing of the road there. All of these factors combine to make this stretch one of the most dangerous for accidents in the south-west of England.

At each meeting the Chair urges local parishes to continually maintain pressure on National Highways.

The organisation SafeA38 is represented on the committee by Councillor Steve Miller. This organisation also continues to press the government to take a more long term and radical approach to this stretch of road.

There have been a variety of other issues throughout the area including children's safety on St Stephens Road Saltashmand the failure to make any real progress with the cycle route between Saltash and Callington following the feasibility study which has been carried out. However the Chair has established a good relationship with the parish council of St Mellion who were championing this cycle route. The committee

has taken an interest also in planning applications that have relevance to Road safety - for example the proposed roadside 20 metre high communication mast at Landrake.

The committee has actively supported the parishes who are seeking to establish or extend their 20mph zones in their villages. Botus Fleming and Landrake are well advanced and their is a huge demand for these from all over Cornwall.

A variety of issues has been discussed and emails and letters have been written, these include some of the highway works that have gone through the Gateway group, speeding issues approaching the Hatt roundabout, and (as usual) comments about the driving behaviour, good and bad of parents collecting school children. At meetings it has been repeated several times that the lack of police presence on the ground has caused a worsening of the situation (in Saltash, and in the other villages, the PCSO's would regularly visit the sites at critical times). Other issues include discussions about the pedestrian crossing on Callington Road by St Annes home.

The committee continues to welcome members of the public who wish to speak on their particular issues and they are also welcome to speak on other issues on the evenings agenda.

In particular, the committee is grateful for the continued and sterling work, especially accurate, recording of heavy goods vehicles by a North Road resident Mr Rod Baker who has now been invited to be a standing representative at meetings. Mr Baker and the committee have a very good relationship with Julian Mitchell from national highways who is organising the average speed cameras in North Road (work is due to start at Easter).

The committee has still failed to establish any real relationship with the road safety areas of interest at Cornwall Council.

The Chair would like to thank the Council for their continued and active support of the committee and in particular the liaison with the local parishes that result.

Derek Holley

Chair

#### <u>CHAMBER OF COMMERCE – Report to Annual Meeting of the Parishioners of</u> Saltash.

During the last 12 months the Chamber has been active in many respects throughout the town.

The Chamber has a remit to support and assist its members who are in business in the town. Our membership includes single people working from home to some of the larger employers in the town and, like other small chambers, is involved in many peripheral activities to try and help businesses.

The Chamber is an active member of Town Team and thereby represents the business community on a forum which also has councillors thereon. The activities of Town Team are reported elsewhere.

The Chamber has also been responsible for organising the Christmas Festival which in 2022 was another great success bringing several thousand people into Fore Street on the first Saturday in December. One of its members, Scrapstsore, sponsored the Lantern Parade and helped with the classes in the town's schools where the lanterns were made by the pupils.

The Chamber meets monthly and one of the issues that has concerned members in the last 12 months was the raising of the bridge tolls where we put objections into the consultation. Another issue has been the congestion at Gilston Road and Carkeel roundabout at peak periods. This is an ongoing issue but we are concerned that it will only get worse as more houses are built/become occupied at Treleddan. We continue to make our voice heard as we do with respect to parking issues on the industrial estates where poor parking causes issues for larger delivery vehicles accessing their delivery points.

Totally Local and Fiverfest were two retail trading ventures supported by the Chamber and some members have been considering ways to revitalise the Saltash Card which has proved popular in the past with the Saltash Community.

Peter Ryland

**CHAIRMAN** 

#### Agenda Item 8g



www.seasaltash.org.uk email info@seasaltash.org.uk

#### SEA Annual Report 2022-23

SEA currently has 244 newsletter members and 1474 followers on Facebook, and is run by a Committee of eight. The past year has been highly successful with increased collaboration particularly with Town Council, and several projects started or taken forward.

SEA is proud to be one of the Mayor's chosen charities for the current year. Since Saltash Town Council set up its Climate Change and Environment Working Group (CCE WG), SEA has tried to ensure it is represented on all CCE WG meetings seeing it as potentially the most productive of our partnerships. It has enabled us to use Isambard House for our public evening meetings. SEA also is pleased to have an excellent working relationship with through their new Manager and staff of Services Delivery. And we have been invited to collaborate with Library Hub on the Environmental months initiated by the Manager.

SEA has also established a valuable partnership with local **Coop store** staff who have been welcoming in store, involved in litter picks. SEA is a chosen **Local Community Fund** to improve wheelchair accessibility on the Community Allotment.

SEA has received donations this year from Burraton School, from Cornwall County Community Chest, and from Saltash Bakery, and from individuals via collecting boxes.

The main SEA project developments in 2022-23, the first six being part of our Cherishing Habitats programme:

- **Community Allotment** in Grenfell Avenue has its first productive year, and won a grant from Coop Local Community Fund (see above)
- 'Grow your Love of Nature' which was SEA's 2022 contribution to Cornwall's Local Nature Recovery strategy. We made available 50 calendula (pot marigolds) to Saltash residents to encourage them to link with Nature. They were distributed through Burraton School, Brunel School and the Community Hub in Fore St
- Five Saltash Town Tree Walks were conducted by the Tree Wardens

- Tree Saltash year 1 of planting trees and hedges in suitable sites around Saltash, in partnership with CCE WG, and with valuable collaboration from Forest for Cornwall, and funded by both organisations
- Wildflower Surveys were organised in the wildflower areas that SEA runs in the cemetery (86 species) and in Pillmere Meadow (47 species)
- **Habitat Challenge** rolled out at Tincombe Tea Party and Coop store introduced children and their carers to the delights and fascination of discovering insects in their habitat
- A **Thermal Imaging Camera** was purchased for loan to members (with online instructions on use) who want to find where their expensive household energy is lost
- Public evening meeting topics included Future proofing your Home, Saltash Trees, and Vegetables for the New Climate

Long-term projects have continued: Litter Rangers continually attract new members adopting their local streets and able to hire equipment to keep them clear of litter; new equipment has been purchased. Community Litterpicks have recommenced after the pandemic. Victoria Gardens demonstration bed is maintained by SEA.

SEA has sought publicity through stalls at May Fair, the Regatta, Tincombe Tea Party and Coop store; through the website seasaltash.org.uk and Facebook pages (both for SEA and Litter Rangers group), and St Nicholas Christmas Tree Festival.

Looking to the future, we are already heavily committed to continue our current projects, and only lack of personnel resources prevent us from acting on various new projects such as an anti-idling campaign, campaigns to restore nature to low-maintenance gardens (in place of carbon-intensive concrete and plastic 'grass'), and the proposed Green Guide to Saltash.

Adrian White

#### ANNUAL REPORT OF GATEWAY COMMUNITY NETWORK AREA PANEL (CNA)

Cornwall Gateway CNA is one of 19 network areas in Cornwall, created when the Unitary Authority of Cornwall Council was established in 2009 to take, drive and influence action on priority community issues.

Cornwall Gateway CNA was pleased to be able to move back to meeting in person over the last year. Meetings have provided members with an excellent forum to support each other and share best practice, giving us a sense of connection and purpose.

The CNA continues to provide a positive platform to engage with the police, who regularly attend Panel meetings, as well as with representatives from the Saltash Area Road Safety Group (SARS), Safe 38 and, latterly, the Tamar Toll Action Group.

Chair: Cllr Hilary Frank, Cornwall Council	Vice-Chair: Cllr Gary Davis, Torpoint Town Council		
Cornwall Councillors:			
Cornwall Councillor Kate Ewert	Rame Peninsula & St Germans Division		
Cornwall Councillor Hilary Frank	Saltash Essa Division		
Cornwall Councillor Sheila Lennox-Boyd	Saltash Tamar Division		
Cornwall Councillor John Tivnan	Torpoint Division		
Cornwall Councillor Martin Worth	Saltash Trematon & Landrake Division		
Town and Parish Councils:			
Antony Parish Council	Botus Fleming Parish Council		
Landrake with St Erney Parish Council	Landulph Parish Council		
Maker with Rame Parish Council	Millbrook Parish Council		
Saltash Town Council	Sheviock Parish Council		
St Germans Parish Council	St John Parish Council		
Torpoint Town Council			
Regular Attendees and Cornwall Council Officers:			
Sector Inspector	Devon & Cornwall Police		
Derek Holley	SARS (Saltash Area Road Safety)		
James Millidge	Safe 38		
Mel Priston	Tamar Toll Action Group		
Will Glassup	Highways Manager, CORMAC		
Louise Wood	Service Director for Planning & Sustainable		
	Development, Cornwall Council		
Catherine Thomson	Community Link Officer, Cornwall Council		
Lisa Grigg	Communities Support Assistant,		
	Cornwall Council		

The annual review of priorities led us to add an extra priority around public transport:

- Climate Change and Environmental Sustainability
- A38
- Air Quality, with specific reference to Tideford and Landrake.
- Water Transport
- Public Transport Connectivity

Recognising the importance of climate change to the Panel, the CNA agreed to create the Cornwall Gateway Climate Change Network, which has met regularly over the last year. This network comprises representatives from all Town and Parish Councils in the CNA, in addition to representatives from active groups such as Cornwall Climate Care, and has held energetic, informative sessions.

Will Glassup as Cornwall Council's Highways Manager has guided and delivered schemes within the £57,000 annual budget devolved to Cornwall Gateway CNA to improve the highways network, including the installation of a virtual footway in front of Ashtorre Rock.

The achievements of the CNA are in large part due to the dedication and insight of Catherine Thomson (Community Link Officer) and Lisa Grigg (Communities Support Assistant), and all 11 towns and parishes are grateful to them.

Sadly, though, this will be the final report of the Cornwall Gateway CNA, as Cornwall Council's policy has changed to reflect changing needs. The 19 network areas across Cornwall will be reconfigured to create 12 Community Area Partnerships (CAPs), with extra powers to allocate Shared Prosperity Funding. Our Cornwall Gateway CNA will be merged with the Liskeard Looe CNA to form a CAP comprising 29 parishes.

It has been a privilege to chair the Cornwall Gateway CNA, and I pay tribute to all the people, past and present, who have embraced collaborative partnership working, delivered successful actions, given meaningful input and helped delivered outcomes that have been impactful for the communities we serve.

Councillor Hilary Frank, Chair, Cornwall Gateway CNA Representing Saltash Essa on Cornwall Council

#### Agenda Item 8i

#### Saltash Heritage Annual report for Parishioners 2023

I am delighted to report that this year has been a busier, happier and more productive year following the uncertain times during the pandemic.

Our happiest moment was when we were informed that we had again had our Accreditation approved by Arts Council England and this will last for a further three years. This is the high standard of work that is expected of us as a museum, in caring for the items in our collection, maintaining our standards of safety and care of our volunteers and visitors, providing all the help we can, answering the huge amount of queries which come our way, and welcoming everyone into our museum. We are fortunate to have maintained the same level of volunteers, even though because of illness or death we have lost some, new volunteers have stepped forward out of some magic cloud.

We have joined the Cornwall Family History group in a days' training in the Saltash Wesley Church, we had two sessions in the library joining in various open days, we have set up photographic displays in Ashtorre Rock and our speakers have been out and about giving talks to various groups in the town. We have joined the South East Cornwall Museums Forum, of whom we are a very active member and attended two training sessions of green energy and sustainability, looking to the future. We have led a Family History Open day in Liskeard again for the 6<sup>th</sup> year running and met up with hundreds of visitors from all over the country. Our 7<sup>th</sup> year of this event will be in June this year.

Our Management team continue to meet for an evening every month and attend the SECMF meetings all over east Cornwall every other month.

We have welcomed a new young recruit on to our Committee who is training as our new Curator and we are delighted at his enthusiasm. All major rolls in the museum have a shadow, someone to step in to cover and learn and we are pleased to say another recruit has been taken on board to shadow the Curator and these two men are actively starting to reorganise the 3d items in our care in a new area we have given them, due to the acquisition of some extra storage space close by which will give us more space in the research area also to accommodate the many visitors we have to our local history research room.

Last night three members of the Management Committee attended an all day symposium in the RIC in Truro. This was followed by the Cornwall Heritage Awards, and I am delighted to say that Saltash Heritage once again snapped up one of the seven annual awards. This year,' The Object of the Year' award for a 3ft model rowing boat made by Mashford Brothers boat builders in Saltash in 1926 for the son of one of the Mashford Brothers to be used as a cradle for his new son. This was later altered to have internal boat fittings as the young toddler grew up and we have a photograph of young Roy playing in the cradle/boat on the river Tamar by the boat builders yard. This boat will be taking prime position in the new exhibition about to open in April, all about sustainability and recycling.

All this has been going on, whilst welcoming a large number of visitors, especially on the Jubilee weekend when we were extremely busy and late night Christmas shopping when we had over 300 visitors in during that Saturday alone.

Our researchers continue to deal with a huge number of requests from all over the world, one just arriving last week from South Africa with the possible donation of a mystery clock presented to a long time worker in the Co op just before the first world

war. Amongst our many donations this year was a box of china from New Zealand this turned out to be small Victorian china pieces with images of the construction of the Royal Albert Bridge and appears to be momento's which were produced soon after the opening of the bridge in 1859 for citizens to purchase as a memory of this grand event. These items will feature in our current exhibition to be opened in April this year. We had a highly popular AGM in the new restored Station building with a fascinating talk about the history and connection of Landulph to Saltash by one of our Management team.

We now look forward to a busy 2023 and see what unexpected things happen to Saltash Heritage.

Lizzy Sharpe-Asprey Hon Secretary

#### **Neighbourhood Plan Report to Annual Parish Meeting 2023**

The Referendum for the Saltash Neighbourhood Plan was held on 17 March 2022.

The question was:

Do you want Cornwall Council to use the Neighbourhood Plan for Saltash to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?

The result was as follows:

YES 2343 (92.4 %) NO 187 (7.3%)

**Turnout 19.9%** 

More than half of those voting were declared as voting in favour of the plan.

The Saltash Neighbourhood Plan has been adopted, is now in force and has been used as evidence when considering a number of recent planning applications.

This is a very significant document for Saltash, that was only possible because of the efforts of a considerable number of local people, too many to list, to whom I would like to express my thanks.

#### Agenda Item 8k



Saltash Regatta Committee c/o 14 Lockyer Terrace Saltash PL12 6DF info@saltashregatta.co.uk

27/09/2022

Regatta Reflections – Chairs report

Regatta 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> September 2022

Karen Lilley, Chair and Aaron Monk (Diverse Events CIC) along with the volunteers organising the annual Regatta and Waterside Festival, are delighted to celebrate another successful event, if not a little wet!

Feedback has been very positive overall. A clash in dates this year meant that the Caradon Gig Rowers were unable to run their usual Championship races during the Regatta weekend. This was a one off scenario and arrangements have already been made for next year, to ensure this does not happen again.

Sponsorship was sourced in the main from Saltash Town Council, Cornwall Community Foundation and Waterways Drainage. Financial contributions were also gained from Cornwall Councilors, Carlton Plastics, Spinnaker International, Grove Nurseries Boarding Kennels, Infinite, and a small number of businesses locally. Raising money is becoming harder each year.

The support the event received from the Royal Navy Submariners and Air Cadets was exemplary. They helped with all aspects of the management, in particular road blocks. Additionally they had a great attitude and got involved in the races at the same time.

The event supporters included CBL Hire and Sales, Redeemer Church, Mike Pitches Photography and Community Enterprises, PL12.

The Saltash service deliver teams were really helpful throughout every stage of the preparations and the event itself. Sean was very supportive indeed in every way.

A huge thanks to the Mayor at the Civic and Children's Parade. The Mayor opened the event and spent some visiting stalls.

Saltash Town Band led the procession safely to the Waterside, where prizes were handed out. The parade had fewer children due to its timing in September, when schools are not engaged, but was still a spectacle.

The Regatta Relay Paddle board race was well supported, as was the glorious Paint Party and the thrills and spills of the Cardboard Boat Race. Jon and Dee White, along with their team of volunteers from Redeemer Church, have been organising this infamous spectacle for five years now and do a fantastic job. They also created a fun Treasure Hunt and gave out prizes.

We could not find a free recycling service this year for the boats, so had to use our budget for the removal of cardboard.

Once again, Saltash Environmental Action worked to keep the area spotlessly clean.

The future is creative fundraising, the Regatta will return again but we need to push very hard for community support and sponsors, as despite it being a great event; sadly these costs rise year on year

We could not have run this event without the financial support received by Saltash Town Council.

Yours Sincerely

Karen Lilley

## Agenda Item 81

## Saltash May Fair Saturday 7<sup>th</sup>, Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2022



The committee of Jo Baskott, Hilary Frank and Tracey Hayton worked hard to bring May Fair back with a bang after three years of enforced absence due to Covid. The committee approached a range of event companies and was pleased to award the contract for event management to Diverse Events, which has an excellent track record of delivering events within the town.

Spanning across Fore Street, Victoria Gardens and Longstone Park, May Fair was extremely well attended and supported, with plenty of positive feedback.

Highlights of May Fair 2022 include:

- Collaboration with Saltash Town Youth Council to establish a Youth Village within Victoria Gardens on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup>
- Setting up a concert stage in Longstone Park with live music until 8pm on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup>
- Extension of the May Fair to a second day with a focus on Health and Wellbeing in Longstone Park on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup>
- Collaboration with Tamar Trotters to reinstate the Saltash Half Marathon as part of May Fair on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup>

The May Fair Constitution states that its aim is to "continue the revival of the community spirit in Saltash on which attention was focused by the Silver Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II". As such, the Committee hosted a highly popular Jubilee Big Lunch in June 2022, setting up 100 tables down the length of Fore Street.



#### MAY FAIR 2022 PROGRAMME OF EVENTS



At the May Fair AGM held on 28<sup>th</sup> November 2022, the following three members were elected to the Committee, with Hilary Frank being elected as Treasurer:

Hilary Frank Tracey Hayton Adam Webb

It was agreed at the AGM that the May Fair be reconstituted as a CIC to reduce the liability of the organisers, and the application is now in progress.

## Agenda Item 8m

# TheValley

News from the Tamar Valley AONB



## **Busy and promising** times for AONBs



Dan Cooke Manager, Tamar Valley AONB

These are busy and promising times for AONBs. It was great to be able to hold our Annual Forum as a faceto-face event again in June this year - a chance to catch up with friends and partners old and new.

There is clear and growing momentum from Government, our partners and, most importantly, from residents and local communities, for more to be done to conserve and enhance our precious and important landscapes. Awareness of the real value of these landscapes is growing. We are learning more about the economic value of the essential things we all rely on nature to provide - clean air, clean water, good food, carbon storage, pollinators and biodiversity - as well as health and well-being benefits.

We now know that the total value of natural capital in the Tamar Valley AONB is £39 million per annum. This includes, for example, the value of climate regulation

(natural carbon capture and storage) at over £8 million, and air pollution removal services that trees and plants provide is valued at £2.5 million. The stock of biodiversity alone is worth £2 billion! Further details will emerge as we begin to report on the outcomes of our Natural Environment Investment Readiness Fund project.

Defra has made it clear that it wants to see Protected Landscapes (AONBs and National Parks) working together to deliver more clear benefits for nature, climate, people and place. It is also prepared to back this up, by strengthening our purpose and powers, and by providing more resources to enable us to 'do more good stuff' for the benefit of the Tamar Valley. It seems likely that these changes will also be marked by a change in our branding to become a new Tamar Valley National Landscape, a move supported by our executive board. Busy times ahead!

#### Contents

- Chair's Welcome
- Tamar Valley AONB Annual Forum celebrates Calstock Wetland & Walkway
- 6-11 Tamara Landscape Partnership update: Steps underway for coast-to-coast walking route Pioneering training project for the Tamar Valley Volunteers sought for innovative community events Exciting 'green growth project' set to revive market garden industry

Farming update

Seeking miners, growers and forestry workers! Community, schools and wellbeing

**River Explorers** 

Welcoming new team members Helping the community to grow and heal

Foraging expeditions Wellbeing Walks

- **Events Programme**
- War Part of trail delebrates 10th anniversary 70 ancient trees unveiled

- Sweet success for SHARE recycling
- Milestone achieved in tackling invasives
- Farming in Protected Landscapes
- Climate action in the Tamar Valley
- Businesses to Prevent Plastic Pollution in the
- Tavistock Guildhall receives World Heritage Site **Key Centre Status**
- About us

#### More from us...

Sign up to receive monthly ebulletins from the Tamar Valley AONB - a great way to keep up to date with progress on projects and calls for volunteers in between issues of The Valley newsletter. Please visit: www.tamarvalley.org.uk and scroll down to 'ebulletins'. Alternatively, email Charlotte at

#### Follow us:









@TVAONB o tamar\_valley\_aonb

Coming soon:



tamar vallev aonb

Daily images of the ongoing war in Ukraine, raging inflation in food, fuel and energy hitting every household budget and now threatened strikes across public services. All of this, set against a backdrop of political divide, has created for many a sense of despair as one crisis follows another in what can surely be termed a 'summer of discontent'.

## Chair's Welcome

However, in contrast it would wrong to erase the positive memories and measures of true community engagement in returning to simple pleasures post the pandemic, and of the widespread celebrations experienced over the Queen's Platinum Jubilee weekend. Taking in the panoramic view from Kit Hill Beacon of the many smaller village bonfires scattered across the entire valley at the launch, through to the concluding Big Lunch as street parties brought together a genuine carnival atmosphere, with everyone demonstrating a rekindling of a spirit of unity.

This is a legacy we trust we can capture through our 'theme of re-engagement' in many aspects of our ten National Lottery Heritage funded projects that make up the Tamara Landscape Partnership Scheme. As the varied programme continues to roll out this summer, we encourage everyone to participate in many of the organised events, and maybe even sign up to become Citizen Scientists and help to deliver for nature.

One such initiative already delivering for our natural environment, as well as improving farm productivity, is the Farming in Protected Landscapes programme. Now in its second year, we have 26 successful approvals to date, some of which were showcased at the recent Tamar Valley AONB Annual Forum, which also included an unofficial celebration of the River Tamar Walkway & Wetland Project in Calstock.

Facing the many challenges of the world today, whilst encapsulating the genuine goodwill and combined spirit we can all offer, together we can continue to build those bridges and deliver exciting times ahead for the Valley community.



Martin Howlett, Chair, Tamar Valley AONB Partnership





# Tamar Valley AONB Annual Forum celebrates Calstock Wetland & Walkway

Blue skies, a new bridge and wetland habitat, and a number of inspirational speakers welcomed over 70 delegates to Calstock earlier this summer, as the Tamar Valley AONB team held its first in-person Annual Forum for three years.

Representatives from local organisations, businesses and the community were welcomed to Calstock Arts, for talks and a site visit to the newly-created wetland.

The theme 'Working Partnerships for a New National Landscape?' highlighted the achievements of productive partnership projects and the continuing need to work together in order to continue to conserve and enhance the natural beauty of the Tamar Valley.

Chair of the AONB Partnership, Martin Howlett, welcomed all to the Forum and introduced speakers from a range of partner organisations who spoke about their roles within the Tamara Landscape Partnership Scheme, the benefits of the AONB's Farming in Protected Landscapes programme and the progress of the River Tamar Walkway & Wetland Project partnership, that includes the recent installation of a footbridge to retain the section of the Tamar Valley Discovery Trail that passes through the wetland.

A celebration of the walkway and wetland project was held on the footbridge, with Calstock School pupils and staff cutting the ribbon, followed by the cutting of a specially-commissioned cake back at Calstock Arts. The official opening of the project will be held in due course.

Former Chair of the Tamar Valley AONB, Neil Burden, was presented with gifts, including a local apple tree 'Tamar Beauty' grafted by Mary Martin, for the support and dedication he has given to the Tamar Valley AONB over the past 25 years.

### **Valley Champions**

The Forum continued with a new Valley Champions Awards presentation. The award recognises those individuals who go above and beyond in their contribution towards the conservation and enhancement of the AONB.

Congratulations to this year's Valley Champions:

Jane Kiely (Tamar Community Trust) for her unstinting work with the River Tamar Walkway & Wetland Project

**Pat Gould** for the many years he has dedicated to both the Tamar Community Trust and Tamar Valley TLC as Treasurer.

Local artist, Gudrun Taresch, produced this year's awards.

Above/Right: aged 43 eceiving their awards





Above: One of several inspirational talks at the Annual Forum



Above: Speciallycommissioned cake celebrating the walkway and wetland



Above: Dan Cooke leads the way to the footbridge

#### **What is the River Tamar Walkway & Wetland Project?**

- New £3.1 million flood defence scheme to manage the risk of flooding to properties and critical infrastructure in Calstock
- · 11-hectare intertidal habitat created;
  - to offset impacts of climate change
  - to provide a richer environment for people and nature
- New footbridge will maintain access along the river, which is part of the Tamar Valley Discovery Trail.

Find out more here -

https://tamarcommunitytrust.wordpress.com/wetlands-and-walkway/

## **Exciting sightings** on the wetlands

Just some of the wildlife seen at
Calstock wetland so far. Calstock
Wetlands Bird Watchers Group on
Facebook is a fantastic resource for
keeping up to date with what you may be
lucky enough to see when visiting.









The Tamara Landscape Partnership Scheme aims to create a brighter future for the Tamar Valley and its communities. Bringing together partners from a wide range of backgrounds, this partnership finds its strength in its diversity. Farmers, landowners and communities manage and enhance landscapes that are rich in wildlife, as well as cultural and historic heritage. The Partnership also helps improve access to special places and promote ways for people to enjoy the landscape while improving their health, wellbeing and access to training.

With match-funding commitments from other partners, over £3 million is being invested across the Tamar Valley up until 2025.

## Steps underway for new coast-to-coast walking route

This spring, consultation into the creation of a new 90-mile Cornish walking route, got underway.

Reaching from the south to the north Cornwall coast, the project aims to join together existing rights of way in the Tamar Valley to create a footpath which establishes a new circular walk around the coast and county boundary of Cornwall. If the path is given the go-ahead, it could open in spring 2023.

Will Darwall, Tamara Landscape
Partnership Scheme Manager said, "This
is an exciting phase for the proposed
Cornish coast-to-coast footpath and
could be another great way to enjoy some
of the most stunning views and hidden
corners of the South West."

The proposed new trail will run through a special and protected landscape defined and shaped by the Rivers Tamar, Tavy and Lynher, famous for its mining heritage landscape, and market gardening history and a haven family 125

Partnership Scheme, including Cornwall Council and Devon County Council have worked together with the help of external consultants Countryside Creation Services to develop the proposal.



**Above: Cornish Trails route map** 

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Our greatest asset for both local residents and visitors is the coast and our amazing coastal path, so I welcome this proposal to link our two world-class coasts through the stunning and intriguing Tamar Valley, which is so rich with beauty and history.

Malcom Bell, Chief Executive of Visit Cornwall

Partners of the Tamara Landscape

# Pioneering training project for the Tamar Valley

The first of over 20 apprenticeship, foundation and internship training opportunities has been announced as part of the Tamara Trainees project.

The project aims to improve job prospects of those living in and around the Tamar Valley and provide support for local businesses.

The first role is a National Trust assistant ranger apprenticeship, which has been jointly funded in partnership with the National Trust. The apprenticeship will last 18 months, and the successful applicant will work to protect and improve the health and wildlife richness of the Trust's Cotehele Estate. It is hoped that over five apprenticeships will be made available as Tamara Trainees over the next three years, three of which will be with the National Trust.

Chris Harris, Finance and Monitoring Officer says, "We're delighted to be working with the National Trust to provide our first apprenticeship. It's vital that everyone is given the chance to access excellent training, learn skills and build confidence to improve their prospects of employment and ensure they have happy, fruitful careers."

Further opportunities, including a Level 3 Business Administration Apprenticeship, are also being developed and barriers to participation will be removed, enabling anyone from any background to participate.

If you'd like to get involved, please contact Chris Harris at charris@tamarvalley.org.uk



Above: Helping to keep the Tamar Valley special

The Tamara Landscape Partnership Scheme is looking for over 250 volunteers to support a host of innovative events.

## Volunteers sought for innovative community events

The events and activities, which will range from yoga for wellbeing to monitoring the water quality of the Tamar Valley and supporting school visits will be a first for the Valley. Although many volunteers already give their time in the AONB, one of the priorities of this new scheme is to improve the wellbeing and job prospects of people living in and around the Valley.

It is hoped that in total over 250 volunteers will get involved over the five years of the Scheme. Currently, the Tamara Scheme is recruiting for Walk Leaders, Event Assistants and Citizen Scientists and 46

For more information, contact Sammy Fraser, Community and Volunteering Officer, 07522 709428, samantha.fraser@cornwall.gov.uk

This new broader range of volunteering opportunities and events means that everyone - children, young people and adults - can get involved with something fun, educational or enriching.

Sammy Fraser, Tamara Landscape Partnership Community and Volunteering Officer

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The Tamar Valley's market garden industry is set to be revitalised thanks to a new project launched by the Tamara Landscape Partnership Scheme and Tamar Grow Local.

## **Exciting 'green growth** project' set to revive market garden industry

The 'Promoting our Produce' project aims to rejuvenate the industry by supporting existing and new market gardening enterprises and community groups in a number of ways. This includes the creation of new community allotments, specialised training and demonstration sites and a network of local food ambassadors. A new 'brand' to market the produce will also be explored.

Tamar Grow Local has been commissioned by the Tamara Landscape Partnership Scheme to lead the Promoting our Produce project, which will see over 200 people complete one of the new husbandry courses; 180 people take part in a demonstration at one of the three new per patration allotment plots and over 20 volunteers sign up as ambassadors.

Rachael Forster from Tamar Grow Local explains, "The Promoting our Produce project will offer opportunities for people to share knowledge, get involved in growing food and develop new skills for recreational and commercial growing. We'll also be providing a signposting service for local people wanting to find local food, or to get involved with volunteering and community projects."

As part of the project, Tamar Grow Local is looking for some brilliant folk with a passion for local food to support others to get growing, to help out at events and courses and to share knowledge with others. If you have a few hours available and would like to get involved as a volunteer, or would like any further details on Promoting our Produce, please contact Rachael Forster on 01579 208412 or info@tamargrowlocal.org.

This is an exciting and important project for the Tamar Valley and its communities. The Tamar Valley, until relatively recently, supported a significant market gardening industry and this project will not only help to preserve the character of this special place, but will also support and grow the number of local enterprises.

There are lots of opportunities for people to get outdoors and involved in growing, with all the associated benefits for wellbeing, too.

Will Darwall. **Tamara Landscape Partnership Scheme** Manager







Above: Sarah Richardson, **Land Management Officer** 

## Farming update

Working in partnership with Farming in Protected Landscapes, colleagues at the AONB have been busy engaging with farmers and landowners.

With the appointment of our new Tamara Landscape Partnership Land Management Officer, Sarah Richardson, over the coming months we will be focusing on identifying further sites for hedge planting and restoration and tree planting.

Alongside this, working with our colleagues at the Environment Agency, Westcountry Rivers Trust, Devon Wildlife Trust and Duchy College, we will continue the Luckett stream catchment improvement monitoring and action, and get work on the Upper Tavy catchment underway.

See pages 20-21 for more information on the Farming in Protected Landscapes programme.

## Seeking miners, growers and forestry workers!

Do you know anyone who worked in the mines, the market garden industry, forestry or the ferries in the Tamar Valley in the distant past?

We are keen to create an oral history of what life was like working in the Tamar Valley in years gone by. We want to create a Heritage Hub, which will store a wealth of historical information about the Valley in an online resource that schools, academics and researchers can use. So, if you have any information that can help, please get in touch.

Meanwhile, we have been working with the World Heritage Site (WHS) and Exeter University to map the mineworkers' smallholdings in the Valley to inform the WHS Management Plan. During the mining by con in the Valley, some mineworkers were given land to

grow their own vegetables, but there isn't a clear picture of where these plots are.

Work has also continued with Historic England across the five mining sites in the Valley - Gunnislake Clitters Mine: New Consols Mine; Okel Tor Mine; Holmbush Mine and Tamar Canal Lock, and we now have a completed Conservation Management Plan for Gunnislake Clitters Mine. The Plan has prioritised and costed the work that needs to take place to consolidate the mine, which is a scheduled monument in the WHS. We will now work with the landowner and Historic England to agree next steps.

For further information, please contact Gary Lewis, Senior Heritage Officer, gary.lewis@cornwall.gov.uk

# Community, schools and wellbeing

Spring was particularly busy, with numerous art, heritage, nature, local produce and water-based events taking place. Thanks go to the team at Pentillie Castle and Estate for working with us to host our first large-scale school event. Over three days in March, 232 pupils and staff from four local primary schools took part in a

BioBlitz – nature-based activities, including bird ringing, bug hunting, land art, yoga and willow tepee creation.

## River Explorers

As part of our support for the Westcountry Rivers Trust Citizen Science Investigations (CSI) volunteering programme, we're delighted to say that we've had lots of local interest and sign up.

The scheme aims to educate and engage people with the water environment, produce data that can be used to target work and identify degrading water bodies and spot pollution events which can be dealt with as quickly as possible.

In support of the CSI scheme, we'll be running local events for people to learn more about the aquatic life living in their rivers and how to take part in CSI. Our first event in Buckland Monachorum was sold out and we have more planned. Haven't signed up yet? Don't worry, there are still plenty of places that need monitoring. Check out https://wrt.org.uk/westcountry-csi/ to find out how.

We've also been working with the Trust to launch the school element of this project. This aims to equip teachers with the knowledge and confidence to take pupils to their local watercourses to carry out surveys to look for aquatic life

and find out more about the CSI scheme.
Our first pilot session with Calstock
Primary and Callington Community
College launched in May. We're still looking
for local secondary and SEN schools to
be involved, so please do get in touch.



Above: Event at Buckland Monachorum

For more information, contact Sammy Fraser, Community and Volunteering Officer - 07522 709428, samantha.fraser@ cornwall.gov.uk

## **Welcoming new team members**

We are delighted to have recently welcomed two new members to the Tamara Team – Will Darwall, who is the new Scheme Manager and Sarah Richardson, the new Land Management Officer.

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Tamara team photo:
Back row I-r Gary Lewis (Senior Heritage Officer), Chris Harris (Finance & Monitoring Officer), Will Darwall (Scheme Manager).
Front row I-r Sarah Richardson (Land Management Officer), Sabina Eberle (Communications Officer), Sammy Fraser (Community & Volunteering Officer).



# Helping the community to grow and heal

We've been working in partnership with Battling On, delivering outdoor sessions for young people and adults with partners such as local farms, community interest companies and Westcountry Rivers Trust. These sessions have focused on engaging people with nature and their local landscape, running activities such as butterfly habitat creation, footpath maintenance, litter picks, orchard care and water quality surveys.



**Above: Battling On** 

## **Foraging expeditions**

Thanks to the Tavistock Health & Wellbeing Alliance, we have paired up with staff at Tavistock Youth Café to run sessions for local teenagers to get out and enjoy the Valley.



Activities planned include farm visits, water quality investigations, litter picks and practical conservation work. In May, the group enjoyed their first session with a foraging walk run by Incredible Edible using local footpaths in Bere Alston.

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We continue to run our Yoga wellbeing sessions at Bere Alston and are

collaborating with Drawn to the Valley to run local art workshops for those suffering from isolation, mental or physical health issues or in need of a respite from care.

To find out more, contact Sammy on 07522 709428 or samantha.fraser@cornwall.gov.uk



**Above: Dandelion clock** 

## Wellbeing Walks

In collaboration with Plymouth Community Homes and Devon and Cornwall Rail Partnership, we've been working with the wellbeing hubs across Plymouth to organise visits into the Tamar Valley using the rail networks and more are being planned.

In Plymouth, we have also been working in partnership with Trevi, a nationally awardwinning women's and children's charity that provides safe and nurturing spaces for women in recovery to heal, grow and thrive. Our first trip took place in May at Cotehele and included a picnic, pond dipping and bug hunting. A particular favourite with the children was finding tadpoles and blowing dandelion clocks. We'd like to thank the National Trust team at Cotehele for their support in planning and running the session and are looking forward to more.

## **Events**

Here's a selection of events, activities and volunteering opportunities for you to enjoy throughout the Tamar Valley. New events are added regularly to our online Events Calendar. Visit tamarvalley.org.uk/events for your up-to-date guide.

Please note: events may be subject to change. Please contact the event organiser in advance, to check if plans have changed. Persons who participate in events do so at their own risk. Neither the Tamar Valley AONB team, other organisers, nor landowners shall be liable for any death. loss or damage sustained. Participation in events is at the discretion of the leader. Whilst every care has been taken. no responsibility can be taken for inaccurate information in the newsletter.

#### **August**

#### **Guided Canoe Trips on the River Tamar**

A truly relaxing way to enjoy the stunning scenery and wildlife that the Tamar Valley has to offer. 2.5 hour trip, including picnic break at private riverside wild meadow.

Notes: suitable for complete beginners aged 3 years+.

Cost: £30 adult, £24 child (under 5s free) Meet: Cotehele Quay, nr St Dominick, Saltash, PL12 6TA

Information: tamartrails.co.uk/events for dates & times available

Booking: info@tamartrails.co.uk, 01822 833409

Organiser: Canoe Tamar

#### Until 4th September, 10am - 5pm

#### Come Out and Play

Join us at Cotehele as we get creative and interact with nature in new ways this summer. There is lots of fun to be had as you complete the trail and explore the gardens, orchard and mill on your way. Cost: normal admission charges apply Venue & Organiser: National Trust

Cotehele, nr St Dominick, Saltash,

PL12 6TA Page 51 Information: www.nationaltrust.org.uk/ cotehele, 01579 351346

#### Until 15th September, 10:30am - 5pm daily (except Mondays)

#### **Fairies & Dragons Trail**

Explore the gardens and keep an eye out for mischievous fairies and friendly dragons! The circular walk takes approximately two hours, culminating in a visit to the wishing tree.

Venue & Organiser: The Garden House, Buckland Monachorum, PL20 7LQ **Information:** www.thegardenhouse.org.uk

#### Wednesday 3rd

#### **Valley Volunteers Working Party**

Come and help the team of Valley Volunteers with maintenance tasks at the 01566 706527 Tamar Trails. Gulworthy.

Information: for details of when and where to meet, and further information on Valley Volunteers Working Party tasks to be undertaken, please contact Phil Harwin - greenwood.music.plus@ gmail.com, 07971 768147

**Organiser:** Tamar Community Trust

#### Wednesday 3rd - Sunday 7th, 10am - 4:30pm

#### **Tavistock Annual Summer Exhibition**

Drawn to the Valley's main summer exhibition, with many artists participating, presenting a diverse range of artwork influenced by our beautiful and inspiring Tamar Valley.

Venue: Butchers' Hall, Bedford Square, Tavistock, PL19 0AU

Information: www.drawntothevallev.com Organiser: Drawn to the Valley

#### Friday 5th, 7pm (gardens open at 5:30pm)

#### Peter Pan - Outdoor Theatre Award-winning outdoor theatre company

Illyria bring their fabulous production of Peter Pan to The Old Tennis Lawn. Notes: please bring a rug to sit on, or low-backed seating. Please dress warmly. Wednesday 10th Suitable for all ages 5 years+. Cost: tickets £18 adult, £10 child (under

12), £50 family (2 adults, 2 children) Venue & Organiser: Pentillie Castle & Estate, St Mellion, PL12 6QD

Booking: www.pentillie.co.uk and follow the links

#### Saturday 6th, 10am - 4pm

#### **Cornish Makers Market**

An eclectic mix of Cornish makers who will share their wonderful work in a day of art and craft. Local musicians, great food, all-day outdoor bar.

Venue & Organiser: Tre, Pol & Pen Farm Shop & Restaurant, Lezant, PL15 9NN Information: www.trepolandpen.co.uk,

#### Sunday 7th

Come and help the team of Valley Volunteers with maintenance tasks at Wacker Quay, near Antony.

Information: for details of when and where to meet, and further information on tasks to be undertaken, please contact Phil Harwin - greenwood.music.plus@ gmail.com, 07971 768147

**Organiser:** Tamar Community Trust

#### Sunday 7th, doors open 7pm, performance starts 7:30pm

#### **Jazz Divas Night**

The Jazz Divas, under the guidance and tuition of vocal coach and singer Helen Porter, are eager and ready to croon, swing and scat for you once again. Eight solo singers, accompanied by Jonathan Taylor on piano and James Budden on double bass, sing jazz standards.

Venue & Organiser: Calstock Arts, The Old Chapel, Calstock, PL18 90X Information: www.calstockarts.org, 01822 833183

Valley Volunteers Working Party Come and help the team of Valley Volunteers with maintenance tasks at the Tamar Trails, Gulworthy.

Information: for details of when and where to meet, and further information on tasks to be undertaken, please contact Phil Harwin - greenwood.music. plus@gmail.com, 07971 768147
Organiser: Tamar Community Trust

#### Thursday 11th, 9:30am - 1:30pm

#### **Bracken Pull & Litter Pick**

Join Countryside Ranger, Jenny Heskett, on Kit Hill to keep this invasive plant in check

**Meet:** Kit Hill Adit Car Park (2nd on left of road to summit)

**Information:** jenny.heskett@cormacltd. co.uk, 07973 813843

Organiser: Cormac Solutions Ltd

#### Thursday 11th, 6:45pm - 8:45pm

## Drawing & Exploring - Tamara Landscape Partnership Event

We will be taking a relaxed walk through the woods with artist explorer Karen Howse, stopping as we go to try out a variety of drawing exercises. This is an experimental drawing walk that is as much about learning to look, slowing down and experiencing the place afresh as drawing.

**Notes:** suitable for anyone who likes walking and is curious! Beginners very welcome. Suitable for older children with an adult.

**Meet:** Cotehele Quay Car Park, nr St Dominick, Saltash, PL12 6TA

#### **Booking & Information:**

https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/draw ing-and-exploring-tickets-377147096117 **Organiser:** Tamara Landscape

Partnership Scheme and National Trust Cotehele.

#### Thursday 11th - Friday 12th, 10am - 4pm

## Art for All – Watercolours: Cling Film Textures

Experimental course with watercolours, inks and cling film textures.

Cost: £8 per course

**Venue:** Callington Methodist Hall **Booking:** essential as places are limited – westdevonartworkshops@gmail.com, 07724 153381

Organiser: West Devon Art Workshops

#### Thursday 11th - Friday 12th, 10am - 4pm

#### Art for All – Have Fun Drawing People Learn the basics of drawing clothed figures, taking inspiration from loose an

figures, taking inspiration from loose and expressive as help from why and illustration. Suitable for adults and teenagers.

Cost: £8 per course

**Venue:** upstairs room, Launceston Ambulance Hall, PL15 7AE

**Booking:** essential as places are limited – westdevonartworkshops@gmail.com, 07724 153381

Organiser: West Devon Art Workshops

#### Saturday 13th, 10:30am - 1:30pm

#### Wild Hedgerow Spice Trail

This walk, led by Leon Frey, sets out to illuminate the best wild ingredients of the season and demonstrate why summer can be a brilliant time to get creative with the flavours of summer.

Cost: £25 (children free)

**Venue:** The Wild Spice Trail, Maker Heights **Booking:** www.familyforagingkitchen. co.uk (please let us know of any dietary requirements you may have)

Organiser: Family Foraging Kitchen

#### Saturday 13th, 2:15pm

#### **Stoke Climsland Show**

Lots of children's entries, bouncy castle, stalls and bar.

Venue: Stoke Climsland Village Green Information: schedule booklet available from Stoke Climsland Post Office & Stores

#### Saturday 13th, 10am - 3pm

#### **Dry Stone Walling**

Join tutor, Robbie Ryder, for a day of learning, building stone walls at a relaxed pace, using only a few hand tools and without the aid of cement or mortar.

**Notes:** all essential equipment will be supplied. Please dress appropriately for the weather and wear strong shoes.

Cost: £50

**Venue:** Horsepool Apiary, Sheviock **Booking:** www.familyforagingkitchen. co.uk

Organiser: Family Foraging Kitchen

#### **Saturday 13th, 8pm - 9:30pm**

#### **Bats with Stuart**

An evening discovering how many bats are around. Some bat detectors will be available.

**Notes:** bring binoculars and cameras and wear suitable clothing and footwear. **Meet:** outside St Stephen's Church, Saltash, PL12 4AS (by The Cecil Arms) **Information:** marylangworth@btinternet.com.

**Organiser:** Churchtown Farm Community Nature Reserve, Saltash

#### Saturday 13th, doors 6pm, starts 8:30pm

#### **Outdoor Cinema**

Immerse yourself in an outdoor cinema experience like no other with an outdoor bar, BBQ and stonebaked pizza oven.

Cost: tickets £12.95 adults, £9.95

children

**Venue & Organiser:** Tre, Pol & Pen Farm Shop & Restaurant, Lezant, PL15 9NN **Booking:** www.trepolandpen.co.uk

#### Sunday 14th, 9:30am - 4:30pm

#### Willow Weaving - Irish Trug

This course, led by Lynn Kentish, will teach you how to make your own Irish trug that is perfect for gathering flowers and harvest

**Notes:** all equipment and materials will be provided

Cost: £45

**Venue:** Horsepool Apiary, Sheviock **Booking:** www.familyforagingkitchen.co.uk **Organiser:** Family Foraging Kitchen

#### Tuesday 16th - Weds 17th, 10am - 4pm

## Art for All – Watercolours: Cling Film Textures

Experimental course with watercolours, inks and cling film textures.

Cost: £8 per course

**Venue:** Yelverton Memorial Hall **Booking:** essential as places are limited

- westdevonartworkshops@gmail.com, 07724 153381

07724100001

Organiser: West Devon Art Workshops

#### Saturday 20th, 7:30pm

#### **Brainfools - Lucky Pigeons**

Brainfools' 'Lucky Pigeons' is now touring rural areas across the country. Daring aerials, acrobatic feats, a soulful story.

Cost: pay what you can £8 - £12

Venue: St Germans Priory Church, PL12 5NP Booking: www.carntocove.co.uk/event/

Organiser: Carn to Cove

#### Sat 20th - Sun 21st, 10:30am - 4pm

#### **Great British Summer Fete**

Live music, bouncy castles, children's entertainment, Pimms bar, street food, dog show, gift stall and lots more.

Cost: £5 adult (online, plus booking fee),

£7 adult at the gate, children under 12 free.

Venue: Mount Edgcumbe Country Park,

Cremyll, PL10 1HZ

**Booking:** www.missivyevents.co.uk

Organiser: Miss Ivy Events

#### Weds 24th & Friday 26th, 10am - 4pm

#### Art for All – Wire & Modroc Figures

Build your confidence in sculpture.

Cost: £8 per course

Venue: Bere Alston Parish Hall Booking: essential as places are limited – westdevonartworkshops@gmail.com,

07724 153381

Organiser: West Devon Art Workshops

#### Saturday 27th

#### **Introduction to Green Woodwork**

One-day course with Andy Morton, covering the properties of green wood, cleaving techniques and production of simple craft objects from a greenwood log using traditional hand tools, such as draw-knives and pole lathes.

Cost: £85

**Venue & Organiser:** Sallerton Wood, south east of Launceston (nearest postcode PL16 0HH)

Booking: www.sallertonwood.org.uk

#### Saturday 27th - Sunday 4th September

#### **Drawn to the Valley Open Studios**

Annual event where the Drawn to the Valley artists throw open the doors of their studios, hire space within the community and welcome visitors to see, enjoy and buy their work.

**Venues:** various, throughout the Tamar Valley. Pick up a directory nearer the time for full details.

**Information:** www.drawntothevalley.com **Organiser:** Drawn to the Valley

#### **Sunday 28th**

#### Make a Shave Horse

Two-day course with Andy Morton, teaching a wide range of green woodworking techniques whilst making your own traditional greenwood shaving horse using timber sourced within the woodland.

Cost: £195

**Venue & Organiser:** Sallerton Wood, south east of Launceston (nearest postcode PL16 0HH)

Booking: www.sallertonwood.org.uk

#### September

#### Friday 2nd, doors 6pm, starts 7:45pm

#### **Mad Dog Mcrea**

You are invited to a night of music, dancing and all out fun with local live music favourites, Mad Dog Mcrea.

Cost: tickets £19.95 adults (over 18s only)
Venue & Organiser: Tre Pol & Pen Farm
Shop & Restauran, Lezant, PL15 9NN
Booking: www.trepolandpen.co.uk

#### Saturday 3rd, doors 6pm, starts 8:30pm

#### **Outdoor Cinema**

Immerse yourself in an outdoor cinema experience like no other with an outdoor bar, BBQ and stonebaked pizza oven.

Cost: tickets £12.95 adults, £9.95 children Venue & Organiser: Tre, Pol & Pen Farm Shop & Restaurant, Lezant, PL15 9NN Booking: www.trepolandpen.co.uk

#### **Tuesday 6th**

#### Stool Making

Three-day course with Andy Morton, covering all the green woodworking skills and processes needed in order to construct your own sturdy stool from a green Ash log.

Cost: £265

**Venue & Organiser:** Sallerton Wood, south east of Launceston (nearest postcode PL16 0HH)

Booking: www.sallertonwood.org.uk

#### **Wednesday 7th**

#### Valley Volunteers Working Party

Come and help the team of Valley Volunteers with maintenance tasks at the Tamar Trails, Gulworthy.

Information: for details of when and where to meet, and further information on tasks to be undertaken, please contact Phil Harwin - greenwood.music.plus@gmail.com, 07971 768147

**Organiser:** Tamar Community Trust

#### Friday 9th, 7:30pm

#### **Daniel Smith Blues Band**

Foot-tapping, good-time, old-style, riproaring boogie woogie, blues and jazz delivered with a healthy dose of dry on-stage humour. Recommended for audiences aged 15 years+.

**Venue:** Launceston Town Hall, PL15 7AR **Information:** www.carntocove.co.uk/event/

Organiser: Carn to Cove

#### Saturday 10th, 10am

#### **Special Tamar Valley Walk**

A 14-mile circular walk from Gunnislake to Horsebridge, led by walk leader Rob Blakiston. Stopping for lunch at the Royal Inn, Horsebridge, and another rest stop at the Rising Sun Inn, Gunnislake (so please bring money).

**Notes:** please bring water and snacks, dress for the weather and wear suitable walking boots. Good level of fitness necessary. Sorry no dogs.

**Meet:** Tamar Valley Centre, Drakewalls, PL18 9FE

#### Booking essential/information:

enquiries@tamarvalley.org.uk

**Organiser:** Tamar Valley AONB/Tamara Landscape Partnership

#### Saturday 10th, 10:30am - 1:30pm

#### Foraging & Feasting

This walk, with Vix Hill-Ryder, will guide you across Maker, exploring the diverse landscapes and flora it has to offer, focussing on the variety of wild food ingredients that can be found as summer ends and autumn begins to appear.

**Cost:** £25 (children free) **Venue:** Maker Heights

**Booking:** www.familyforagingkitchen. co.uk (please let us know of any dietary

requirements you may have) **Organiser:** Family Foraging Kitchen

#### Sat 10th - Mon 19th, 10am - 4pm

#### **Apple Picking**

Come and take part in our apple harvest. The Mother Orchard is home to more than 300 trees and 125 different heritage varieties of apple. You can take a selection of these special varieties home with you. Apples are priced at £2.50 (small bag) or £5 (large bag).

Cost: normal admission charges apply Venue & Organiser: National Trust Cotehele, nr St Dominick, Saltash, PL12 6TA

**Information:** www.nationaltrust.org.uk/cotehele, 01579 351346

#### **Sunday 11th**

#### **Chair Making**

Six-day course with Andy Morton, using skills such as steam-bending.

Cost: £450

Venue & Organiser: Sallerton Wood, near Launceston (nearest postcode PL16 0HH)

**Booking:** www.sallertonwood.org.uk

#### Monday 12th, 3pm - 5pm

#### Macramé Workshop

Daniella from Shoreside Macramé will teach basic macramé knotting skills to enable you to create an impressive wall hanging to take home.

**Cost:** £34.95 per person, includes all materials plus coffee & cake

**Venue & Organiser:** Tre, Pol & Pen Farm Shop & Restaurant, Lezant, PL15 9NN **Booking:** www.trepolandpen.co.uk

#### Tuesday 13th, 7:30pm

#### A talk on Calstock Roman Fort

Dr Chris Smart will highlight the recent discoveries at Calstock.

**Cost:** free to members, non-members welcome £3.

Venue: Parish Centre, Tavistock, PL19 8AU Information: www.tavistockhistory.co.uk/contact-us

**Organiser:** Tavistock Local History Society

#### Thurs 15th Sept - Sun 16th Oct, 11am - 4pm

#### **Autumn Art Exhibition**

An exhibition celebrating the work of local artists and the impact and influence of the surrounding landscape on their work. Cost: normal admission charges apply Venue & Organiser: National Trust Cotehele, nr St Dominick, Saltash, PL12 6TA Information: www.nationaltrust.org.uk/cotehele, 01579 351346

#### Wednesday 21st

#### **Valley Volunteers Working Party**

Come and help the team of Valley Volunteers with maintenance tasks at the Tamar Trails, Gulworthy.

Information: for details of when and where to meet, and further information on tasks to be undertaken, please contact Phil Harwin - greenwood.music.plus@gmail.com, 07971 768147

**Organiser:** Tamar Community Trust

#### **Thursday 22nd**

#### **Greenwood Carving**

Two-day course with Andy Morton, teaching the techniques of carving by hand, which will enable you to create your very own beautiful and unique vessels and spoons. You will be using traditional tools and techniques, and will start with a freshly-cut greenwood log.

Cost: £170

**Venue & Organiser:** Sallerton Wood, south east of Launceston (nearest postcode PL16 0HH)

Booking: www.sallertonwood.org.uk

#### Saturday 24th

#### **Introduction to Green Woodwork**

One-day course with Andy Morton, covering the properties of green wood, cleaving techniques and production of simple craft objects from a greenwood log using traditional hand tools, such as draw-knives and pole lathes.

Cost: £85

**Venue & Organiser:** Sallerton Wood, south east of Launceston (nearest postcode PL16 0HH)

DOSICOGET ETO OTTITI

**Booking:** www.sallertonwood.org.uk

#### Sunday 25th

Valley Volunteers Working Party
Come and help the team of Valley
Volunteers with Vallet en nice tasks at
Wacker Quay, near Antony.

Information: for details of when and where to meet, and further information on tasks to be undertaken, please contact Phil Harwin - greenwood.music.plus@gmail.com, 07971 768147

Organiser: Tamar Community Trust

#### October

#### Saturday 22nd, 10:30am - 1:30pm

#### Foraging & Feasting

This walk, with Vix Hill-Ryder, will guide you across Maker, exploring the diverse landscapes and flora it has to offer, focussing on the variety of wild food ingredients that can be found throughout the autumn season.

**Cost:** £25 (children free) **Venue:** Maker Heights

**Booking:** www.familyforagingkitchen. co.uk (please let us know of any dietary requirements you may have)

Organiser: Family Foraging Kitchen

#### Saturday 22nd, 10am - 3pm

#### Willow Hurdle Making

This course teaches you how to control willow, how to source it and use it, creating your own natural and traditional hurdles, which you will be able to take home with you.

Cost: £60 (adult and child £80)
Venue: Horsepool Apiary, Sheviock
Booking: www.familyforagingkitchen.

Organiser: Family Foraging Kitchen

#### Saturday 22nd – Monday 31st, 10am – 4pm

#### **Cheeky Piskies and Cornish Tales**

Cotehele's resident piskies have been up to no good this Halloween. Can you find all of the hidden doors and discover some Cornish mysteries along the way? You can also try your hand at making some leaf crowns to wear.

Cost: normal admission charges apply Venue & Organiser: National Trust Cotehele, nr St Dominick, Saltash, PL12 6TA Information: www.nationaltrust.org.uk/ cotehele, 01579 351346

#### **November**

#### Sunday 13th, 9:30am - 4:30pm

### Willow Weaving - Christmas Decorations

Join Lynn Kentish to learn how to create your own Christmas decorations, such as angels and stars, just in time for the festive season.

**Notes:** all equipment and materials provided.

Cost: £45

**Venue:** Horsepool Apiary, Sheviock **Booking:** www.familyforagingkitchen.

co.uk

**Organiser:** Family Foraging Kitchen

## Saturday 19th – Saturday 7th January 2023, 11am – 4pm

#### Cotehele's Garland

This year, our traditional garland will be back in full flower. Enjoy the festivities with us as the Great Hall is dressed in greenery and candlelight, enjoy outdoor musical performances, a family trail and lots of other touches that make Christmas at Cotehele so special.

**Cost:** normal admission charges apply **Venue & Organiser:** National Trust Cotehele, nr St Dominick, Saltash, PL12 6TA

**Information:** www.nationaltrust.org.uk/cotehele, 01579 351346

#### Weekly Walks in the Tamar Valley AONB

Every Monday, Wednesday & Thursday, join a FREE walk in the Tamar Valley near you.

Every Monday - Saltash Walk & Talk Areas to explore include Latchbrook, Trematon and Cargreen, and a little further afield, Plymbridge Woods and Golitha Falls

## Every Wednesday - Tamar Valley Walk & Talk

Two-hour walks including Luckett, Weir Quay, Bere Ferrers and Calstock

### Every Thursday - Tamar & Bere Wellbeing Walks

A mixture of walks of varying lengths, including Kit Hill, Cadsonbury, Tamar Trails, Harrowbarrow and the Bere peninsula

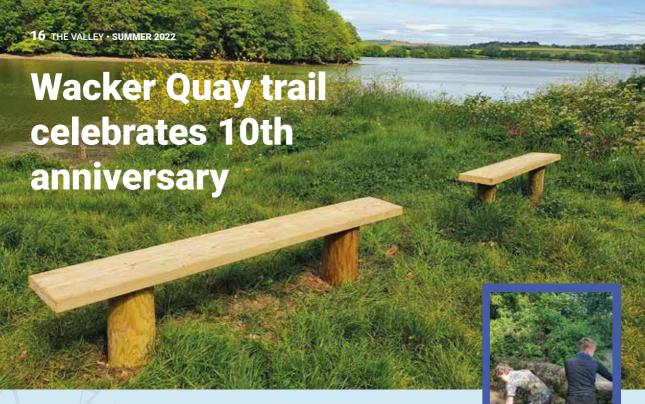
https://www.tamarvalley.org.uk/ explore/walking/

#### **Calstock Footpath Society**

Why not join Calstock Footpath Society on their monthly walks in and around Calstock and the Tamar Valley area.

Most walks are circular routes, mainly on footpaths, off road and quiet lanes. Yearly membership £6, or pay-as-you-go £3 per walk.

www.calstockfootpathsoc.org.uk/



June marked the 10th anniversary of the opening of the riverside walk from Wacker Quay to the village of Antony.

The trail, which follows the route of a 19th century military railway, is situated on the River Lynher. Steeped in history and rich in wildlife, the walk is a popular destination for both local residents and visitors. The trail was cleared and developed by local volunteers, who continue to maintain the site through the Tamar Community Trust.

The quayside provides a great spot to picnic, launch a canoe or kayak, or cast a fishing line. The footpath is perfect for bird watching and learning about the history of the place, while strolling through the woodland.

This spring saw the start of an extensive programme of improvements, including renewing benches, boardwalks and information boards, along with clearing vegetation from the historic features. Activities will continue into the autumn, with working parties led by the Tamar Community Trust's Volunteer Coordinator, Phil Harwin.

During May, Phil was joined by the Torpoint and Hillbrook Explorer Scouts who camped overnight and established new steps, a bench and cleared up the

overgrown railway turntables.

Phil was pleased with progress over the weekend; "They were a good team of lads to get the job done," he said. Local history enthusiastic, Roy Roseveare, also helped and thought the volunteer scouts had "learnt a lot of practical skills and worked really hard putting the new steps in."

The Wacker Quay Improvements scheme celebrates the beautiful natural setting and rich history of Wacker Quay. The project is funded by the Tamar Valley AONB through its Sustainable Development Fund. If you would like to volunteer at Wacker Quay, please contact Phil through the Valley Volunteers programme at enquiries@tamarvalley. org.uk.



Two of the team getting stuck in to some hard graft

22

It's good to give something back to the site which we have enjoyed over the years and especially to uncover the archaeology. It was a very rewarding experience.

Scout Leader Adam Terry



Helping Hands for Heritage visit to Antony House 2014

# 70 ancient trees unveiled

The Queen's Green Canopy, a unique tree planting initiative created to mark Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee, has unveiled 70 ancient trees which have been dedicated in celebration of 70 years of service. We are delighted to reveal that one of these special trees is in the Tamar Valley AONB.

Estate records show that the Antony House Black Walnut was planted in 1785 and it was one of the trees recorded during a training workshop with Cornwall Ancient Tree Forum's Tim Kellett as part of the Tamar Valley AONB's Heritage Lottery Fund supported Helping Hands for Heritage project in 2014.

Cornwall Ancient Tree Forum is still very actively recording trees across Cornwall to add to the Woodland Trust's Ancient Tree Inventory as well as providing management advice and training. If you would like to know more about the group and to subscribe to the e-newsletter, please contact cornwall@ancienttreeforum. co.uk

## Sweet success for SHARE Recycling

Remember all those Quality Street and Celebrations sweet tubs we collected over Christmas, and during January and February?

Devon Contract Waste processed them into picnic benches at their Exeter site ... it takes 3,466 tubs to make just one picnic bench!

They also raised £5,736.28 to be split 50/50 between Dartmoor Zoological Society and Mind charity.

The list of items for which we can raise money for charity is always changing. Check here www.south-hill.co.uk/ charity-recycling for an up-to-date list and where to drop your items.

We can now accept all brands of coffee plastic bags and sachets.

If you have any questions, please email SHARE@ south-hill.co.uk or text/ phone Ali on 07305 044049.

Thank you for your continued support and to the amazing volunteers.



For a number of years, the Tamar Valley has been home to a very problematic, invasive, non-native plant. Now, after more than two decades, the number and distribution of giant hogweed have been radically reduced on the Rivers Tamar and Lyd.

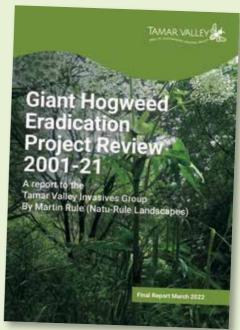
## Milestone achieved in tackling invasives

In 2001, the Tamar Invasives Plant Project partnership, later renamed the Tamar Valley Invasives Group, was formed with the aim of eradicating the plant from the catchment. The partnership, led by Tamar Valley AONB, the Environment Agency, Natural England and Cornwall Council, and with the support of almost 90 landowners, has remained committed to this aim for over 20 years.

The giant hogweed eradication project has now reached a milestone after two decades of constant effort. To mark this. thanks to Water Environment Grant funding through Natural England, a review of the project's success, its challenges, lessons learnt and good practice has now been published. The Giant Hogweed

**Eradication Project Review 2001-2021** which can be viewed online at tamarvalley. org.uk/tamar-invasive-plants-project will not only help plan the project as it moves forward, but will also inform other invasive non-native species work in the Valley and beyond.

The review outlines the historical. legislative and geographic context within which the project was designed and developed. It also discusses the plant's serious concerns for people's health as well as its capacity to outcompete native flora and to create physical land and river management problems. The various methods used to eradicate giant hogweed are described, such as applying herbicides, cutting and uprooting the plant as well as





The Tamar Valley catchment (© Crown Copyright. **Environment Agency** 100026380. Map copied from **Tamar Catchment Flood** Management Plan 2012)



Above: A heavily infested site near Gunnislake in 2005, with some regrowth visible in 2009 and finally clear of giant hogweed in 2012

the essential use of boats in some locations. The importance of finding and retaining good contractors is also highlighted.

Figures on giant hogweed numbers in each year are provided, mainly from around 2009 onwards. Brief reference is made to efforts to carry out the survey and limited control of Japanese knotweed and Himalayan balsam, but giant hogweed has remained the primary focus over the last 20 years.

The findings demonstrate a dramatic reduction in giant hogweed numbers and distribution as the project has progressed (from around 4,000 plants in 2009 to a project low of 174 in 2019 and 336 in 2021).

Other, private efforts to control giant hogweed are taking place in the Tamar Valley, most notably the efforts of a single landowner on an organic holding in the tidal river section. Working since 2002, he initially removed thousands of giant

hogweed plants by hand, with this figure now reduced to double figures. More information on this incredible work is available at https://calstock.org.uk/elf/aliens/.

With only 17 plants found on the non-tidal river corridor in 2021, the Tamar Valley Invasives Group is very close to succeeding in its key aim of eradicating giant hogweed in this area. However, survey and control efforts need to continue in some form, not least because of the potential for giant hogweed to appear at new sites.

The review concludes with recommendations to help take the project forward into a 'maintenance' phase to ensure the positive outcome is not reversed. Key among these are to continue to develop and expand the communication network with landowners and other river users, and to retain a budget to enable quick action to be taken should any new giant hogweed plants be discovered.



Giant hogweed infesting a riverbank



Mixed stand of giant hogweed and Himalayan balsam

Giant Hogweed

uidance & Contre



Tamar Valley Centre, May 2022 - landowners, the general public and local organisations met to learn about the death hoo lead project. This event was held in partnership with South West Lakes Trust and South West Water.

Giant hogweed guidance and control leaflet



Above left: Bohetherick Farm visitor area, St Dominic Above right: Harlings Farm bluebell woods in Bere Alston

Over the last year, along with AONBs and National Parks across England, the Tamar Valley AONB team has been busy delivering the Farming in Protected Landscapes programme.

## **Farming in Protected** Landscapes

This three-year Defra-funded programme awards grants to farmers and landowners to carry out projects under four themes, climate, nature, people and place. Here in the Tamar Valley, we were awarded £700,000 over the three years.

Supported by a full-time Farming in Protected Landscapes Officer, Alice Lewthwaite, and the wider AONB team, the programme has had enquiries from over 100 farmers and landowners and carried out more than 60 farm visits. Applications are reviewed by a panel of local farmers, business owners and representatives from the National Farmers' Union (NFU), Woodland Trust and Natural England. To date, 26 projects have been awarded grants, which will be implemented between now and the end of March 2024.

#### What kind of projects have been approved?

We have been delighted by the range of projects that farmers and landowners have put forward Walker of the Woodland Trust said, "Projects have

ranged from woodland and hedgerow creation, to creation of wetlands, ponds and wildflower meadows, which will help support the local wildlife, mitigate climate change and provide opportunities for people to get close to nature."

Here are just a few of the projects to give you a flavour:

#### Harlings Farm - Bere Alston

Inspired by her disabled son, Abbie Richardson wanted to be able to provide better access onto her farm for people with disabilities. Her grant has funded wide path access, along with wildlife boxes and wildflower meadow margins, which will enable groups like 'Riding for the Disabled' to safely enjoy time outdoors. Harlings Farm is working towards becoming a Care Farm, which will enable Abbie to provide services to disadvantaged and excluded young people.

#### Tamar Grow Local -Mill Lane Acres, Metherell

Tamar Grow Local is a successful

#### **Projects** approved so far will see:

over 1,200m of new hedges planted

548 new fruit trees in hedges and orchards

2 new permissive paths supported

57 bird and wildlife boxes installed, 1 sand martin nesting site extended

1 wildlife tower and 1 bird hide being built

75 hectares of improved habitat connectivity



community interest company, which has been supporting growers and the local community through its Food Hub, Farm Start and allotment projects for the last 15 years. Its project sees it partnering with the Tamara Landscape Partnership to provide a new demonstration market garden site at Mill Lane Acres. This will enable volunteers and future growers to learn field-scale horticultural skills.

#### **Bohetherick Farm - St Dominic**

Jess and Will Jeans, National Trust tenants on the Cotehele Estate, are passionate about connecting people to the food they eat by spending time on their farm. Their grant has enabled them to create a farm nature trail and information centre so they can host visits from schools, charities and local interest groups, as well as encouraging visitors to Cotehele to see more of the beautiful Estate.

#### **Higher Woodley Farm - Gulworthy**

At Phil and Sally Blowey's family dairy farm near Gulworthy, their project focuses on improving and restoring habitats and water quality. They have restored and are enhancing the landscape around their sheds by replanting hedges and adding fruit and other native species trees. These will provide a better habitat for pollinators and connect pockets of woodland habitat across their farm. By roofing over part of their yard they will improve the separation of clean water from slurry, reducing the volume of slurry to be managed annually.

## Facey's Meadow - Metherell

Dr Andrew Ormerod is passionate about preserving and

studying local apple varieties across Devon and Cornwall. His project is a trial orchard to study how trees are adapted to local conditions within the area.



For details of Farming in Protected Landscapes and to view the full list of projects approved, visit our website tamarvalley.org.uk/farming-in-protected-landscapes -projects-approved. The programme has been very popular so our remaining funding is limited. However, we are keen to connect with farmers and landowners across the Valley, so please get in touch so we can signpost you to other sources of funding and free events. Contact Alice Lewthwaite, Farming in Protected Landscapes Officer - 07599 101626, alice.lewthwaite@cornwall.gov.uk



Landulph Parish Climate Action Group tree planting with the local community

The Landulph Parish Climate Action Group (LPCAG) is a community-led initiative based in the heart of the Tamar Valley AONB. It is actively working alongside the local community to tackle some of the very real challenges posed by climate change.

## Climate action in the Tamar Valley

In response to Cornwall Council's Climate Emergency declaration in 2019, Landulph Parish Council set up the Climate Action Group, bringing together local residents with different skills and interests to identify how we can tackle climate change and, most importantly, listen to the needs of the local community to guide our actions.

Recognising the importance of working together to value and protect the local environment, the Action Group has forged links with partners such as the Tamar Valley AONB, Westcountry Rivers Trust and the Environment Agency.

The community activities initiated so far include water testing through the Citizen Science project, local nature trails, tree planting, participation in 'No Mow May' and regular river clean-up days. The Group also involves local school children in its work whenever possible. Members also actively volunteer in environmental awarenes proposing the Tamara Landscape Partnership Scheme.

For further information on LPCAG's work. please contact: clare.tagg@landulph.org.



'Saving Energy' - Children of Landulph Parish working with LPCAG to tackle climate change



(Above) Bug hotel prize for the winner of our Nature

### **Understanding** the Challenges

LPCAG understands the challenges households are currently facing with the increasing cost of living, and have invited experts into the community to provide information on saving energy in the home and electric car charging. Moving forward, the needs of the community and how everyone can take positive action locally to tackle climate change and protect the natural environment is a focus for the Group's ambitious plans. These include developing community-based initiatives to reduce car journeys and protecting and enhancing natural habitats.



A Preventing Plastic Pollution litter pick carried out with volunteers from Plymouth City Council, Plymouth University and Queen Mary University on the River Tavy

Tamar-based businesses can help to protect the River Tamar by accessing free plastic waste audits from environmental charity, Westcountry Rivers Trust.

## Businesses to Prevent Plastic Pollution in the River Tamar

As part of the charity's EU-funded Preventing Plastic Pollution (PPP) project, small and medium-sized companies in Cornwall and Devon can access advice to help them cut down on single-use plastics (SUP) in the workplace and implement sustainable alternatives.

PPP Officer, Perry Burns, said; "We have helped food production firms replace plastic food packaging with biodegradable alternatives and installed special bins for anglers to place their plastic waste in, such as fishing line and spools.

"We want to assist a range of industries, as the audit provides a clear view of how much waste a business is producing, allowing us to provide solutions to help reduce waste and potentially save the business money."

In 2020, the WRT PPP team collected more than 1,200 food-related SUP items in just seven catchment-based litter picks, while in 2021, in just one day at four highway locations, they cleared 26kg of SUP, all of which could have ended up in the River Tamar and The Authorse.

Eligible Tamar-based companies will also

receive social media promotion, a chance to appear in a project film, and other promotional benefits.

Visit wrt.org.uk/project/ppp-business-en gagement, email plastics@wrt.org.uk or call Perry Burns on 07807 116545 to apply.

The WRT PPP team will also be running litter picks for members of the public to get involved in throughout the rest of the year – follow WRT on Facebook (@Westcoun tryRivers), Twitter (@WestcountryRT) and Instagram (@westcountryrivers) to stay up to date with the latest PPP events



A Preventing Plastic Pollution litter pick on the River Tamar with Plymouth University lecturers

22

When plastics get into our freshwater environments it can lead to wildlife being harmed, the pollution of land and groundwater, negative effects on human health, and the contamination of our oceans.

Perry Burns PPP Officer

By taking part, businesses have the opportunity to benefit the long-term health of the River Tamar and support the wider PPP aims.





#### **About Us**

The Tamar Valley AONB Partnership helps to conserve and enhance the natural beauty of the Tamar Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, by offering advice and assistance to community groups, landowners, farmers, residents and visitors.

There are 38 AONBs in England and Wales. The Tamar Valley itself covers an area of 75 square miles (195 sq km) and is the youngest of all AONBs, designated in 1995.

**Tamar Valley AONB Tamar Valley Centre** Cemetery Road, Drakewalls Gunnislake, Cornwall PL18 9FE

t: 01822 835030

e: enquiries@tamarvalley.org.uk w: www.tamarvalley.org.uk

Help us keep the AONB special

We hope you enjoy exploring the Tamar Valley. Please follow the Countryside Code when you're out and about, to keep this living, working landscape special.

#### Your Valley, Your Views

If you have a story that you would like to be considered for the next issue of The Valley (winter 2022/23), or would like to discuss advertising opportunities, please contact Charlotte Dancer, Information & Communications Officer for the Tamar Valley AONB cdancer@tamarvalley.org.uk

#### Produced by

Tamar Valley AONB - Charlotte Dancer **Editorial support** 

Tracey Eustice, PED (Paul Eustice Design)

PED (Paul Eustice Design)

Print

St Austell Printing Company Ltd.

While every effort has been made to ensure accuracy within this newsletter, no responsibility will be accepted for any omissions.

Please pass this newsletter on to a friend before







The Tavistock Guildhall which lies within Area 10 "The Tamar Valley and Tavistock" of the Cornwall and West Devon Mining Landscape World Heritage Site (CMWHS), has been awarded Key Centre status within the WHS; one of only three sites to receive this distinction.

The Guildhall is Grade II\* Listed and has recently undergone extensive renovation to conserve and restore the historic building, thanks to funding from the National Lottery Heritage Fund, Tavistock Town Council, the CMWHS and other funders. The renovations have included an extensive overhaul of the interpretation within the building, resulting in a brand-new immersive range of interpretation covering the building and surrounding areas' wide-ranging history of mining, town development, Dartmoor connections, crime and punishment and much more. The building has also been made more accessible with the addition of lifts and accessible entrances, allowing greater access for the public.

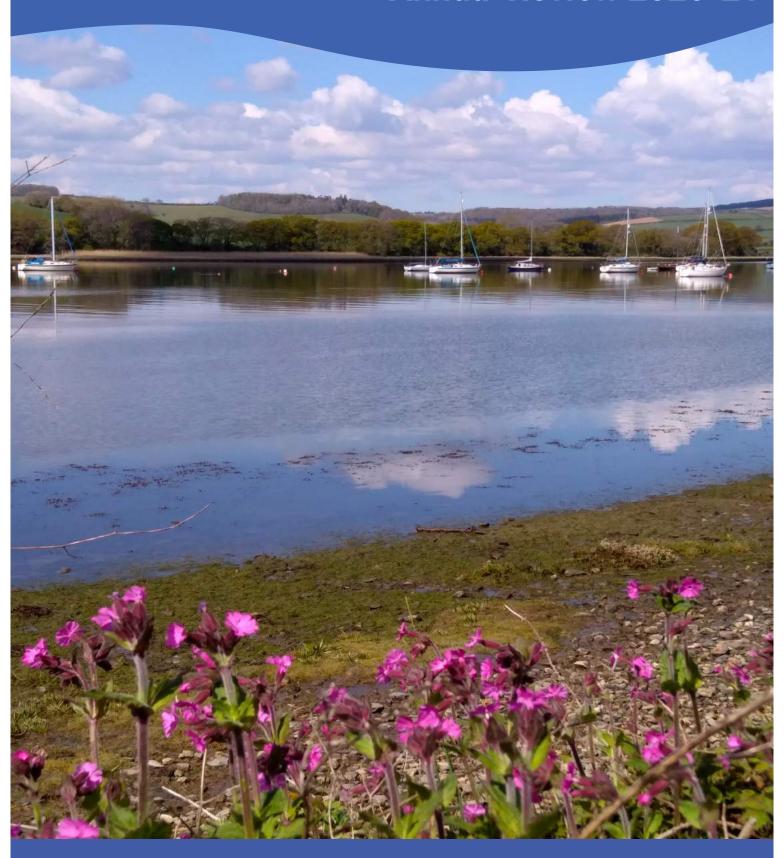
The CMWHS Partnership Board consequently decided to award the Key Centre status to the Guildhall as the eastern gateway to the World Heritage Site. There are three Key Centres located across the area covered by the CMWHS; Tavistock Guildhall in the east, Heartlands in the middle and Geevor in the west of Cornwall. The Key Centres form gateways into the wider Site and provide information and interpretation about the Site to support discovery and understanding by visitors to the Site. They offer a network of local facilities, features and events that relate to specific or local aspects of mining heritage within the Tavistock area, as well as signposting to the wider Site.

The new interpretation and renovations allow the Guildhall to tell not only its own fascinating story, but also that of the wider Area and World Heritage Site.

You can learn about Area 10 of the World Heritage Site here; https:// www.cornishmining.org.uk/areas/tamar-valley-mining-district-with-tavi stock. Guildhall opening times and visiting information can be found here; https://tavistockguildhall.org/



## **Annual Review 2020-21**



Celebrathg our first 25 years

## **Welcome to the Tamar Valley AONB Annual Review**

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## Photo credits

Front cover	Weir Quay © Lesley Strong/Tamar Valley AONB
3	By the River Tavy at Bere Ferrers © Lesley Strong/Tamar Valley AONB
4	View to Halton Quay from South Hooe © Lesley Strong/Tamar Valley AONB
6	St Germans viaduct © TON Drone Services/Tobi O'Neill
7	Working with Tamar Community Trust to clear fly-tipping at Wacker Quay
	© Dan Cooke/Tamar Valley AONB
8	River Tavy at Maristow House © TON Drone Services/Tobi O'Neill
10	View towards South Hooe from near Cargreen © TON Drone Services/Tobi O'Neill
11	Clearance work at Gunnislake Clitters © Tamar Valley AONB
12	Greater Horseshoe Bat © Natural England/Michael Hammett
13	Giant Hogweed © Tamar Valley AONB
14	Calstock Wetlands © Pete Thompson
15	Soil sampling near St Germans © A Bebbington
16	Visit Tamar Valley webpage – visittamarvalley.co.uk
17	Tamar Estuary at Cargreen in Landulph Parish © TON Drone Services/Tobi O'Neill
18	'Resurgum' Exhibition at Tamar Valley Centre © Drawn to the Valley
19	Tamar Valley AONB website – tamarvalley.org.uk
20	Our Health Champion © Lesley Strong/Tamar Valley AONB



## Celebrating Our Silver Anniversary - 25 Years of the Tamar Valley AONB



The 35-mile **Tamar Valley Discovery Trail** was created in 1998.



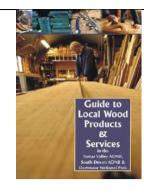
In summer 1999, the **Tamar Passenger Ferry** was launched. It operated between Calstock, Cotehele and Ferry Farm.



Tamar Valley Regeneration Project ran from 1999-2001. A £2.9million project, led by Cornwall County Council - a programme of environmental enhancements in and around Calstock, Callington and Gunnislake.



TAVATA & Woodmeet - established 2001 from a grant from the Phoenix Fund, designed to help rural businesses affected by Foot & Mouth Disease.



Working the Woods was a 3-year project in the mid-2000s, that highlighted the links between protected landscapes and woodland.



Sovereigns, Madams & Double Whites, a book and recordings capturing the memories and life during the heyday of Tamar Valley's market gardening industry, was produced in 2004.



Photo © Peter Eeles

The **Heath Fritillary Project,** initiated by Butterfly Conservation in 2005 and is still ongoing in the Tamar Valley.



In 2006, the AONB team helped the Tamar Protection Society secure funding to restore the **Elizabethan Garden at Mary Newman's Cottage**, Saltash.



Work began on the £6million **Tamar Valley Mining Heritage Project** in 2006, to bring alive the rich mining heritage of the Tamar Valley.



The East Cornwall Regeneration Project was a £1.8million project that focused on conservation and access improvements at 7 mining sites, plus the creation of 19.9km of multi-use trails and 11km of walking trails.



As part of the East Cornwall Regeneration Project, the **Tamar Valley Centre** was built. Home to the AONB team and Calstock Parish Council, it was opened by HRH The Princess Royal in July 2009.



**Drawn to the Valley** art group have 150 members from right across the Tamar Valley, all of whom draw their inspiration from our special landscape.



The community dig in October 2011, as part of the **Calstock Parish Heritage Project**, resulted in the discovery of Calstock Roman Fort.



**Diarykeepers** was inspired by the diaries that St Dominic market gardener, Joseph Snell kept. 90 people recorded their lives each day for a month in June 2012.



In June 2012, the Wacker Quay to Antony Trail opened. This was the result of a great deal of work over 18 months by a small team of volunteers (Wacker Quay Community Group), the Tamar Community Trust and the Tamar Valley AONB.



As part of the Tamar Valley Mining Heritage Project, the **Tavistock Canal Poetry Trail** was created in 2012, with poetry written by local schoolchildren.



'What's In Your Back Garden?' took place in July 2012. Over 40 residents and 36 children from the school in Bere Alston dug test pits to look for history in their back gardens.



Tamar Valley Food Hubs- established in 2013 as part of the Cordiale project's Tamar Valley field trials. This was aimed at promoting and encouraging increased availability of sustainable and affordable local produce in the Tamar Valley and surrounding areas.



**Woodfuel** was one of the key focus areas for the Cordiale project which concluded in 2013. A range of woodfuel resources were produced, including toolkits and case studies.



Helping Hands for Heritage was a 2-year project (2014-2016) that provided expert training for volunteers over a range of heritage topics.



Around 300 visitors joined the Tamar Valley AONB's **20**<sup>th</sup> **anniversary** of the Tamar Valley AONB in the grounds of the Tamar Valley Centre in 2015. It also marked the culmination of the fiveday Tamar Trail Festival.



The Low carbon farming project took place in 2015 – The Tamar Valley AONB, Environment Agency and FWAG ran a series of events looking at how farmers and growers can manage soil sustainably.



Heralds of Spring began in 2017. Iin the first season of surveying, over 104 heritage varieties of daffodils in the landscape were recorded, resulting from 352 surveys.



The 10 Events for 10 Years Wildlife Weekend featured a wealth of activities focusing on the wildlife of the Tamar Valley. This was a culmination of a series of events celebrating the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Tamar Valley Centre in 2019.



A local beer, Ale of Outstanding Natural Beauty, was created to mark 25 years of the Tamar Valley AONB in 2020. Bere Brewery used 100% Tamar Valley hops in their brew. Monarch Liqueurs paired fruits from Tamar Valley hedgerows to create a blackberry and elderflower gin liqueur, named Tamara, to mark the occasion, too.

## Our nationally important landscape

#### A Foreword from Our Chairs

Rising on the borders of Cornwall and Devon, the rivers Tamar, Tavy and Lynher form one of the last, unspoilt drowned valley river systems in England.

On their passage to the broad estuary between Plymouth and Saltash, the rivers flow through a series of deep meanders, steep gorges and wooded valleys. A ribbon of Atlantic woodland extends along the estuary margin. Between the valleys, the high land has a farmland plateau character and there is a feeling of remoteness and solitude. The landscape contains a wide variety of wildlife habitats, including many ancient woodlands and intertidal wetlands that provide important wintering grounds for wildfowl and wading birds.



Opportunities for exercise and exploring abound, including along the renowned Tamar Trails, the Gawton Gravity Hub and our Tamar Valley Discovery Trail. Fabulous historic buildings and beautiful public gardens are dotted throughout.

The diverse scenery reflects the impact and activities of the people that have lived and worked for many centuries in an area rich in natural resources. Field patterns disclose ancient farming practices, disused mine workings reveal intensive mining activity (much of the AONB is covered by Area 10 of the Cornwall & West Devon Mining Landscape World Heritage Site), and old orchards scattered on the warm, south-facing valley slopes are the remnants of market gardens that were widespread in the area at the beginning of the 20th century.



Many of these factors were captured in the original Landscape Character Assessment that formed the basis for the Tamar Valley's designation as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty in 1995. Still the latest addition to the AONB 'family' (though we noted with pleasure the Government's recently announced intention for two new AONBs, and extensions to two more elsewhere in England), we celebrated our 25<sup>th</sup> year as a protected landscape in 2020.

As an AONB, our performance is measured against our five-year Management Plan and its Key Performance Indicators. This report sets out our activities over the past extraordinary 12 months, much of which was under lockdown, showing the remarkable resourcefulness and resilience of our team, our Partners and of course, our landscape.

We would like to thank our small team, supported by our Executive and wider Partnership, for their work during these extremely challenging times. The same can of course be said about most organisations that have kept things moving through all the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, but nonetheless, in the AONB's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary year, the clear and strong progress made is a real demonstration of the dedication and expertise of the team, and the strength of our partnerships.

Lastly, but certainly not least, it is a pleasure for us both to have been elected as the new joint Chairs of the Tamar Valley AONB Partnership, there are exciting opportunities ahead. We thank and pay tribute to our previous Chair, Neil Burden, for his commitment and the AONB's achievements over his long and successful tenure.

Martin Howlett and Cllr Philip Sanders Joint Chairs, Tamar Valley AONB Partnership



## **Executive Summary**

Operationally, and despite the substantial challenge of lockdowns, the Targer Valley AONB team has delivered in the key aspects against its Management Plan objectives in 2020-21. It certainly delivers value for money and, in line with other AONBs, can demonstrate a match funding ratio against core funding of around 3:1, with a good example this year being the successful securing of funding for the exciting Tamara Landscape Partnership Scheme.

Projects delivered, developed or actively supported by the AONB this year, under our broad Management Plan themes of Place, People & Prosperity, and Partnership, include:

Farming-focused projects including the Environmental Land Management scheme (ELMs) Tests & Trials project assessing the viability of new technology in measuring soil carbon and soil health indicators, and the ELMS advocacy work identifying farms and farm clusters keen to work on environmental and landscape improvements.

The announcement of the Farming in Protected Landscapes programme after year-end, with its substantial resourcing for work on nature recovery, climate change, access and heritage and sustainable business practice, was particularly welcome.

The ongoing successful delivery of the project to control the invasive species Giant Hogweed continued, with surveying showing good progress towards virtual elimination across the Tamar Valley.

The AONB continues as an active partner on the important flood-bank realignment and intertidal habitat creation projects at South Hooe and at Calstock, both of which will deliver significant nature recovery benefits and access improvements.

Maintenance of links with our community partners has to enabled continuation or early resumption of Walking for Health programmes, and volunteering opportunities, including the maintenance of the Tamar Trails, fly-tipping and litter clearance and tree planting. We were pleased to be able to welcome back Drawn to the Valley to the Tamar Valley Centre for their first exhibition in 2021.

The announcement of the successful funding bid and the official launch of the Tamara Landscape Partnership Scheme at our well-attended online Annual Forum in early 2021 was a particularly important milestone. The resourcing and project mechanisms are now being established to ensure delivery of this exciting five-year programme.





An express objective under the third theme of our Management Plan is to review our governance mechanisms and representation on the Partnership, so the Governance Review that has been recently conducted and the approved recommendations now being implemented (including the adoption of new Terms of Reference and review and revitalisation of our Partnership), are helpful for the long-term success and vitality of our AONB.

We have also responded, contributed to, or noted key drivers and forces for change including:

The Government's on-going response to its Landscapes Review 2019 (or Glover Review): Of particular interest is a proposed National Landscapes Service (with local accountability and delivery), and recommendations in areas of nature recovery, greater access and inclusiveness, expanded volunteering, potential ranger services and more resources for AONBs.

The 25 Year Environment Plan and the linked environmental targets and other measures contained within the current Environment Bill remain an important focus. As does the Agriculture Act 2020, the proposed ELMs and the Farming in Protected Landscapes programme. These are part of the UK Government's agricultural transition, intended to deliver mutual benefits to the local farming economy and to the environment and wider communities.



There are also many regional and local authorities' initiatives that we contribute to, including Cornwall's Environmental Growth Strategy, Devon & Cornwall's Climate Change Strategies, the work of Local Enterprise and Local Nature Partnerships, the latter importantly including the current Cornwall Local Nature Recovery Strategy, one of five UK pilots that we've actively supported, and will continue to do so as it moves into its vital implementation phase.



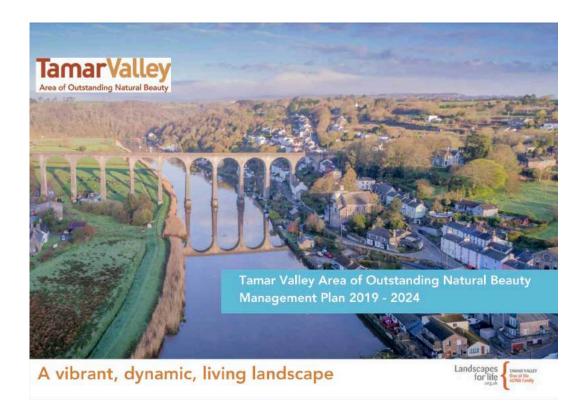
## A Strong & Vibrant Partnership

There are effectively three levels of operation for the Tamar Valley AONB Partnership, enabling all of its partners and stakeholders to contribute and influence its policy and practice:

The **Partnership** – comprising those on the Executive alongside a wider range of stakeholder and community organisations responsible for guiding the vision and strategic direction of the AONB, particularly through the production, monitoring and review of the AONB Management Plan on behalf of the constituent Local Authorities for the AONB.

The Executive Group – comprising elected local authority representatives, advising officers, plus nominated non-Council representatives from the AONB Partnership, and responsible for the oversight and scrutiny of AONB budgets and delivery plans, operational decision-making on the deployment of staff and financial resources and the provision of advice and direction to Cornwall Council, in its role as 'host authority'.

The **AONB Team** – comprising core staff and additional non-core staff responsible for administration of the AONB Partnership and delivery of its programmes of activity.





## **Tamar Valley AONB Team\***

**Dan Cooke** AONB Manager

**Donna Watterson**Office and Finance Manager (P/T)



**Lesley Strong**Project Officer (P/T)



Jo Pridham Monitoring and Reporting Officer (P/T)



Valerie Darwall Project Officer



**Ben Dancer**Planning Advice Officer (P/T)



Charlotte Dancer
Information and
Communications Officer (P/T)



## Tamara Landscape Partnership Scheme\*

**James Luxton**Programme Manager



**Gary Lewis** Senior Heritage Officer



**Chris Harris**Finance and Monitoring Officer



\*as at 31 March 2021



## **Associated Bodies**

#### **Tamar Community Trust**

A key delivery partner working with the AONB, over the past year inevitably all the planned work was seriously affected by the COVID-19 restrictions. Despite these challenges, Tamar Community Trust has continued with work at Wacker Quay and Tamar Trails, much of the work being completed by the Task Leader on his own. Tamar Community Trust has been involved in various other projects including scrub and sapling clearance at Gunnislake Clitters, hedgerow and woodland creation, together with some tree planting at South Hooe, and vegetation management at Okel Tor mine. Tamar Community Trust volunteers also assisted with the clean-up of fly-tipped waste at Wacker Quay in early 2021.

The River Tamar Walkway and Wetlands Project at Calstock is also being managed by Tamar Community Trust and, thanks to additional funding from the Environment Agency, Cornwall Council and the Cornwall Community Foundation, work is now progressing to bridge the gap that will be created by the breach of the floodbank as part of the Project.

#### **Tamar Valley TLC**

As with many organisations Tamar Valley TLC has been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic over the past 12 months which has meant that there has been virtually no activity. With retail and holiday outlets closed for the majority of last year there has been a small amount of income from donation boxes together with some direct donations.

The Tamar Valley AONB is working with Tamar Valley TLC to coordinate the Bere Peninsula Discovering Dormice Project. Tamar Valley TLC was successful in securing a grant of £1,500 from DPD's Postcode Local Trust towards the educational elements of this project, but delivery has been delayed. Tamar TLC continues to work with Tamar Grow Local to complete the 'Heralds of Spring' project.

### Friends of the Tamar Valley

Activities of the group were restricted by COVID-19 restrictions, but the group had one outdoor summer event in August 2020. The monthly lecture series moved online and a full programme of talks was delivered between September and March.







### Providing a brighter future for the Tamar Valley and its communities



#### **Development Phase**

In 2019, the Tamara team were recruited to complete a full and comprehensive 2nd round submission to the National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF). Despite the challenge of COVID-19 restrictions, this fully costed submission was submitted at the end of August 2020 for consideration at a NLHF board meeting in December 2020.

The submission was successful and NLHF awarded a grant of £2.3 million which, when added to the match funding and in-kind support from partners, gave a total funding of £3.2 million.

After completing the necessary permission to start requirements, the Tamara Landscape Partnership Scheme formally started on 23 February 2021 and was launched at the Tamar Valley AONB Annual Forum in May.

The Tamara Landscape Partnership Scheme is a five-year project, supported by the National Lottery Heritage Fund and other partners and aims to:

- Bring local communities together, historically connected but physically divided by the rivers of the valley
- Strengthen and conserve the landscape character and natural beauty, from heritage orchards to broadleaf, woodland-lined, steep-sided river banks, of this unique part of South West England
- Prepare the area for the challenges and opportunities ahead.

The Tamara Landscape Partnership Scheme covers an area of 295km<sup>2</sup>.

## **Outline of the 10 Tamara Projects**



The 10 projects cover 3 areas – built heritage, land management and community

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Small Detail, Big Difference	Supporting local communities to identify, research and protect the unique heritage of the Tamar Valley that matters to them.  Activities may include physical work restoring heritage buildings, recording our unique oral history projects and identifying and protecting the little things that make the Tamar Valley so special.				
Heritage of Innovation	Exploring the pioneering innovation of this unique area which includes ground-breaking mining technology, the market gardening industry and inventive forestry techniques. This will include the development of a variety of creative media and activities to raise awareness and strengthen understanding of the evolution of the Tamar Valley and look at how the challenges of tomorrow will be met to ensure a more sustainable future.				
New Approaches/ Making Connections	Working with farmers, landowners and communities, the project will mitigate for climate change and improve water quality and the surrounding water environment. Targets include increasing tree canopy cover and orchard planting, along with the restoration of hedgerows and provision of farmer/landowner support through the transition to new agri-environment schemes.				
Accessible Tamar	Improving sustainable and integrated transport and access into and through the Scheme area, including establishing a coast-to-coast long-distance walking route. The project will explore the feasibility of reinstating the Calstock Ferry Crossing for walkers and also develop options for a combined rail/ferry ticket for day trippers.				
Come Visit and Stay Awhile	The Tamar Valley has a huge amount to offer visitors and tourists. The project will work with Visit Tamar Valley CIC to create and stimulate an increase in visitor numbers and opportunities for local businesses.				
Celebrating Tamara	Creating fun and fascinating events for both individuals and families designed to connect communities, engage new audiences and provide great experiences for people enlightening them about their local heritage.				
Tamara Trainees	Focusing on increasing the opportunities for employment and meeting the heritage skills need in the Scheme area. Foundation, internship and apprenticeship training opportunities will offer access to training for communities in and around the Tamar Valley.				
River Explorers	Looking to address the disconnection between people and their local waterways by re-engaging individuals, communities and schools. Trained volunteers will adopt their local waterway and protect it by monitoring its biodiversity, pollution and sediment levels. Schools will take part in fun workshops and learn how to care for their local rivers, ponds and streams.				
Natural Connections	Aiming to improve people's physical health and mental wellbeing by helping them to reconnect with nature and heritage and to overcome social isolation. By partnering with link workers, the social prescribing network and other specialist organisations the project will provide a range of fully inclusive opportunities for people to engage with the landscape creatively and therapeutically.				
Promoting Our Produce	Supporting market gardening enterprises, community allotments and providing training programmes for new plot holders. This project will also look at the feasibility of establishing new markets through promoting heritage varieties and local producers using new branding to give added value.				

### **Landscape Character**

# Working to conserve and enhance the landscape character and local distinctiveness of the AONB

We continue to review and support projects that align with our landscape character objectives and priorities. During the last 12 months there has been a comprehensive review of the Landscape Character Assessment for the area carried out as part of the Tamara Landscape Partnership Scheme development phase. This has updated and applied the same methodology across the whole Valley and covers both the AONB and Tamara Landscape Partnership Scheme areas.

#### **Case Study**

The South Hooe Restoring & Enhancing Watery Landscapes project has continued to develop and deliver as part of the National Grid Landscape Enhancement Initiative. The Tamar Valley AONB is continuing to work with partners and the landowners to carry out the phase one programme. Over 2000 trees and shrubs, provided by the Woodland Trust, were planted in the first year and a further similar number planted in November 2020 following COVID-19 guidelines. The trees have been planted by the Tamar Community Trust volunteer working party and landowner and will create over 700m of new hedgerows and 1.2 ha of wooded areas. Tree planting has been combined with the sensitive maintenance of existing hedgerows to develop the hedge structure and encourage the growth of hedgerow trees compensating for the loss of trees in the landscape due to Ash dieback disease. New fencing has been installed to allow the development of rough grassland for Barn Owls and other wildlife.

Phase two will focus on the land adjoining the Tamar Estuary and a project led by the Environment Agency to create up to 14 ha of new intertidal habitat. Work is planned to commence in autumn 2021, subject to planning and other permissions.



### **Historic Environment & Local Distinctiveness**

#### Working to discover, conserve and enhance heritage within the AONB

In a landscape with a rich time depth of story to tell we continue to deliver projects that safeguard and promote the heritage in the Tamar Valley. Partnership working is also a key to our work and the Understanding Landscapes project continues to increase our understanding of heritage in the AONB. The National Lottery Heritage funded project is being delivered by University of Exeter and has attracted a great deal of interest from volunteers. Unfortunately, COVID-19 restrictions impacted heavily on the project in the last 12 months, but desktop discoveries continue to add to our knowledge about local heritage.

#### **Case Study**

The **Rediscovering Gunnislake Clitters** project continued to make progress despite the pandemic, but with lower volunteer involvement than originally planned.

A funding boost from Cornwall Heritage Trust and Historic England has helped to conserve, and improve access to, the Skinner's Shaft section of this important historic site. This initial phase of the project enabled vegetation clearance to take place in winter 2020/21 in order to improve access to the site for visitors and for a detailed condition survey as part of the Tamara Landscape Partnership Scheme.

The Tamar Valley AONB is working in partnership with Historic England, the Cornwall Heritage Trust, Cornwall and West Devon Mining Landscape World Heritage Site, and the Tamar Community Trust on this project and we are grateful to the Duchy of Cornwall, which owns the site, for its support and giving permission for this work to take place.



### **Biodiversity & Geodiversity**

# Working to support the conservation and enhancement of biodiversity and geodiversity in the AONB

The Tamar Valley AONB are partners in a number of key projects which focus on biodiversity and species that have stronghold populations within the AONB. We continue to work with Butterfly Conservation on the 'Saving Tamar Valley's Heath Fritillaries' project and the good news is that, following habitat management at Greenscombe Woods, Heath Fritillary numbers have remained stable.

We are also partners in Plantlife's 'Building Resilience in South West Woodlands' National Lottery Heritage funded project. Unfortunately, this project was badly impacted by COVID-19 restrictions but online training sessions allowed volunteers to carry out Rapid Woodland Assessments as part of their daily exercise which will provide a valuable resource going forward. The AONB have started to scope priority species and nature recovery networks and will continue to build on this in 2021/22, with the development of the AONB Nature Recovery Plan, as part of its commitment to the Colchester Declaration. The AONB has partially met this commitment via actively inputting to the Cornwall Local Nature Recovery Strategy, one of five UK pilots for Defra. It also continues to work close with the Devon and Cornwall Local Nature Partnerships.

#### **Case Study**

The Devon Greater Horseshoe Bat (DGHB) project has been hugely successful over the last five years and, despite COVID-19 restrictions during the final year, volunteers were still able to take part in surveys. The Tamar Valley AONB continued to host the bat detector and volunteers who took part in the 2020 survey provided valuable data to help inform management for both greater horseshoes and other species of bat across the AONB and beyond. The DGHB project team also provided a number of online talks about the project and there was a very well attended end of project 'virtual conference'. The DGHB project website remains a legacy and has a wealth of information and resources about these amazing bats.



### **Rivers & Estuaries**

# Working to maintain high quality river systems and habitats and identifying opportunities for sustainable development, recreation and tourism

Rivers and estuaries are at the heart of the Tamar Valley AONB and any work carried out on a catchment scale ultimately impacts on these systems. By focusing on landscape-scale projects, we can have an influence on the provision of high quality river systems. The Tamar Valley AONB is represented on the Tamar Estuaries Consultative Forum and the Tamar Catchment Partnership. The team has also been working on options appraisals for three catchments within the Tamara Landscape Partnership Scheme, focusing on opportunities to improve water quality and a range of other ecosystem services in these areas. Other ongoing projects such as South Hooe Restoring & Enhancing Watery Landscapes, The River Tamar Walkway & Wetland Project and the Tamar Invasive Plants project add to the strong focus on rivers and estuaries.

#### **Case Study**

The **Tamar Invasive Plants project** is a long-established and widely-recognised body of work, with a focus on the eradication of Giant Hogweed in the project area. The Tamar Valley AONB delivers the Tamar Invasive Plants project, on behalf of a partnership of four organisations (Tamar Valley AONB, Environment Agency, Natural England and Cornwall Council – known collectively as the Tamar Invasives Group).

The project continues treatment to control Giant Hogweed on an annual basis. Numbers of plants have shown a progressive decrease in the survey area in recent years. However, the 2021 season showed a slight increase which demonstrates the need for constant vigilance to prevent the spread of this invasive species. The Tamar Valley AONB and our partners in the Tamar Invasives Group, are grateful to have been awarded additional funding through the Water Environment Grant (WEG) earlier this year, covering the cost of the 2021 survey and control work. In addition, South West Water generously provided additional funding in 2021, ring-fenced for future invasives work in the Tamar Valley.



## **Environmental Quality & Climate Change**

# Working to ensure effective conservation and management of the AONB's natural resources and responding to the challenges of climate change

Environmental Quality and Climate Change is a theme at the heart of our work and links across all of our Management Plan themes. A member of the Tamar Valley AONB works one day per week for the Forest for Cornwall project focusing on opportunities for engagement locally and is working with Calstock Parish Council to develop the vision and delivery of the 'Forest for Calstock Parish'. The AONB team has also been providing input to both Devon and Cornwall Climate Change policies.

Intertidal habitat creation is one of the main areas of work ongoing in the Tamar Valley with multiple benefits for the environment and a more resilient future in the face of climate change.

#### **Case study**

The River Tamar Walkway & Wetland project has progressed well over the last 12 months despite COVID-19 restrictions. The Tamar Community Trust has entered into an agreement with the Environment Agency to act as a key delivery partner for a £2.2 million flood defence scheme on the River Tamar at Calstock, south east Cornwall. As a result of rising sea levels, more extreme weather and deterioration in the historic embankment, Calstock has become more at risk from flooding. In response to this, the Environment Agency has obtained funding to construct new embankments and create intertidal wetland habitat in part of the flood plain. Once completed, these wetlands will help to protect against river flooding and surge tides whilst providing important biodiversity habitat.

Phase 1 of the wetland creation work is now complete with the area on the landward side of the embankment re-profiled to provide a range of scrapes and lagoons. The next phase will see the breach of the current flood bank to create a 14 ha intertidal habitat and this work is anticipated to take place in autumn 2021. Once the breach has been made, the wetland will change progressively from a freshwater to an intertidal regime.



## **Farming, Forestry & Land Management**

# Working to support systems of landscape management that conserve and enhance the AONB

The Tamar Valley AONB continues to support farming, forestry and land management activities which contribute to a healthy, well-functioning landscape and sustainable business practices today and in the future. Our activity ranges from providing input to strategies that will help to shape future land management to promoting and supporting the local delivery of programmes such as Forest for Cornwall and Saving Devon's Treescapes. Working in partnership with other organisations is a key to delivery of new land management opportunities within the Tamar Valley AONB, and the Tamara Landscape Partnership Scheme's New Approaches/Making Connections project will provide opportunities to take this further over the next five years.

The Tamar Valley is one of 12 AONBs who have joined together to undertake a collaborative national tests and trials programme for Defra's Environmental Land Management (ELM) agricultural transition scheme, hosted by the National Association for AONBs (NAAONB) under the Farming for the Nation banner, and was involved in the ELM Advocacy programme which finished in March 2021.

#### **Case study**

The Tamar Valley AONB Environmental Land Management (ELM) Tests & Trials researched new soil scanning technologies as part of the Farming for the Nation - (ELM) Tests and Trials programme. Scanners could help to measure soil organic levels and wider soil health, information which can be useful in good land management and the fight against climate change. This information could then form the basis of future payments to farmers and landowners.

The results will help to inform the UK Government in setting its own agricultural transition schemes over the next five years. Once the scanning trials were complete, the AONB worked with Duchy College, participating farmers and South West Farm Consultants to assess the results. The trial started in the autumn of 2020 and concluded in June 2021.



### **Access, Recreation & Tourism**

# Working to promote the development of integrated access, recreation and tourism that are compatible with the AONB designation

In normal times, we would be providing updates from our weekly walking groups that take place throughout the Tamar Valley. These walks offer much-needed social interaction as well as the more obvious health benefits from exercise and fresh air. Unfortunately, as with many events and activities this year, these groups were forced to press pause.

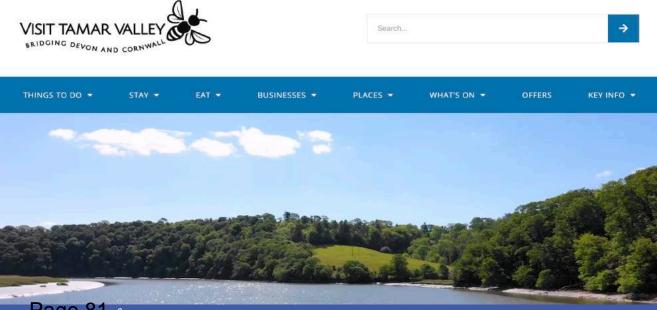
Overnight, the Tamar Valley AONB team switched from promoting walks and talks to raising awareness of local businesses who could offer food and drink, that was in short supply for a while, to the local community. Tamar Valley grown and sourced had never been so important for our generation!

Not everything stopped. Much behind-the-scenes work was carried out both within our AONB team and for our partner organisations. The Tamar Valley Tourism Association (TAVATA), for example, not only rebranded, but re-launched themselves under a completely new name.

#### **Case Study**

Visit Tamar Valley - Known for many years as 'We Love the Tamar Valley', in 2020 the Tamar TAVATA rebranded to become 'Visit Tamar Valley'. Established some twenty years ago, this important AONB partner has always sought to promote the Tamar Valley and support the many small businesses that make up the tourism and hospitality sector. With a new identity in place, increased resources and a clear focus on promoting the Tamar Valley as a 'not to be missed' destination to the domestic tourism market, Visit Tamar Valley is ready to face a future full of opportunity.

The team also set about building collaborative relationships with key stakeholders in the Tamar Valley, and aligned itself closely with the Tamar Valley AONB and Tamara Landscape Partnership Scheme. Towards the end of 2020, a brand-new destination website was commissioned and built. <a href="https://www.visittamarvalley.co.uk">www.visittamarvalley.co.uk</a> was launched in 2021.



## **Planning & Development**

# Working to ensure that the AONB's purpose and objectives are fully recognised in local planning policy

Ensuring appropriate scrutiny and input into often sensitive planning applications and policies is an important role for the AONB. 178 formal planning applications were reviewed in 2020/21, ranging from proposals to create extensions, develop housing, leisure and community facilities, as well as the creation of an area of intertidal habitat.

#### **Case Study**

The Tamar Valley AONB would also note the recent appeal at Rosehill Nurseries, Landulph (APP/D0840/W/20/3260932) where the Inspector dismissed the appeal.

The appeal is notable for the following reasons;

- 1. It related to previously developed land (plant nurseries)
- 2. It was agreed that it represented major development within the AONB

The Inspector handling the case agreed with the Tamar Valley AONB objections confirming that the horticultural cultural significance of the glasshouses was important in people's perceptions of the AONB as a working landscape and also that the impacts of the development were such that it should be regarded as "major development" as per the National Planning Policy Framework and Tamar Valley AONB Management Plan definitions.



### **Communities & Culture**

# Working to support communities to understand and appreciate their cultural identity and contribute to a sustainable future for communities in the AONB

The Tamar Valley AONB is a living, working landscape and the people of the Valley, past and present, are vital in keeping it special. This year has been a year like no other. Locally-sourced food became essential at the start of the pandemic, when throughout the country demand outstripped supply and families struggled to get hold of the basics. The AONB team signposted social media followers and e-bulletin subscribers to the growing list of local food providers at this time, and encouraged people to continue to buy local as normal service within the supermarkets gradually resumed.

The AONB team joined forces with Tamar Valley TLC to bring a weekly quiz to Tamar Valley residents, who were perhaps missing their regular pub quiz or just wanted to keep their minds active.

#### **Case Study**

**Drawn to the Valley**. It has been a challenging year for local artists, as for everyone else. In particular, it has been almost impossible to hold exhibitions safely and in 2020 some of the most popular annual events for Drawn to the Valley, such as the annual Open Studios and Spring Exhibition had to be cancelled.

Perhaps the biggest unanticipated benefit of the COVID-19 crisis was the availability of grant funding for the arts. Drawn to the Valley was able to successfully apply for funding from the Arts Council to help build a new website with a gallery and shop feature. This feature not only helps local artists to share and profit from their artwork but also allows the group to host online exhibitions. The website has raised the profile of the group enormously and has also helped to attract new members, with the group membership increasing by 20% since it was launched.

Things are slowly returning to normal and the opportunity to provide exhibitions in local venues is returning. The 'Resurgam' Exhibition at the Tamar Valley Centre was extremely popular and it was great to renew the good working relationship with Tamar Valley AONB. The members have also been enjoying regular outings to local beauty spots for artist working days, a feature of Drawn to the Valley activities which is ever popular and which allows members to fully appreciate the beauty of the Valley and express this in their work.



### **Communications, Education & Awareness**

# Working to promote a great understanding, appreciation and enjoyment of the AONB landscape and wider recognition of the designation and its purpose

With the Tamar Valley AONB celebrating its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary since designation in August 2020, this provided the perfect opportunity to raise awareness of our protected landscape and spread our key messages far and wide.

Although restrictions prevented hard copies of *The Valley* newsletter being produced and distributed, online versions were created. Monthly ebulletins continued to be sent to over 450 subscribers and 11 press releases were issued to local and regional media throughout the year.

Regular social media postings continued across three platforms; a great way to engage with our audience.

Our most successful campaign of the year was the 25-day countdown to the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary, increasing our Facebook reach by 23,275 and number of engagements by 1,661. Twitter had a reach of 18,973 and Instagram attracted 447 interactions with the content.

#### **Case Study**

New branding for the Tamar Valley AONB was launched to coincide with the Tamar Valley AONB's silver anniversary. Cornwall-based Paul Eustice Design created a new look for the AONB, Tamara Landscape Partnership Scheme and Visit Tamar Valley. The 'bee' logo represents a sense of living and working together, with a shared understanding and need to pull together to conserve everything we hold dear within our Valley. We are an industrious and fearless community – a hive of activity and energy. The AONB's new website was also launched during this year – tamarvalley.org.uk



### **Health & Wellbeing**

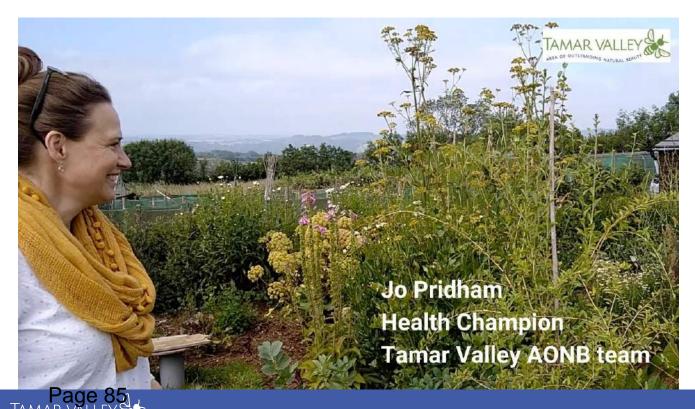
# Working to connect people with the environment to improve health and wellbeing

The Tamar Valley AONB team works to connect more people with the environment to improve health and wellbeing. Spending time in the natural environment, whether it be in green or blue spaces, improves mental health and feelings of wellbeing. It can reduce stress, fatigue, anxiety and depression and it can help to combat loneliness and bind communities together.

Over the last 12 months, people have been enjoying the AONB for all sorts of exercise during COVID-19, even though our larger walking groups were suspended during that time. The Tamar Valley AONB has also continued to be involved in the Active Devon campaign and provided input to other health and wellbeing initiatives locally. This has given the team a firm grounding to develop and deliver health and wellbeing activities in the future.

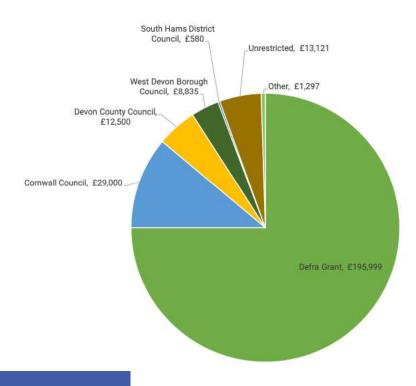
#### **Case Study**

Cornwall Council, Tamar Valley AONB's host authority, runs a staff **Health Champion** programme, and Jo Pridham represents the AONB team. Jo has promoted health campaigns and the '5 Ways to Wellbeing' and when COVID-19 restrictions eased, staff took part in socially-distanced walking meetings.

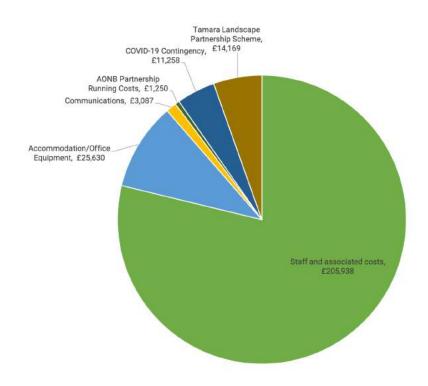


## **Financial Summary 2020/21**

#### **Income**



## **Expenditure**









### **Tamar Valley Centre**

Cemetery Road, Drakewalls, Gunnislake, Cornwall PL18 9FE Tel: 01822 835030 tamarvalley.org.uk enquiries@tamarvalley.org.uk













## Agenda Item 8n

#### **Visit Tamar Valley**

Visit Tamar Valley is a volunteer run membership organisation which promotes tourism in the Tamar Valley. We represent around 200 member businesses.

Visit Tamar Valley was previously TAVATA – Tamar Valley Tourism Association. Our members are typically tourism, hospitality and related businesses in the valley as well as the four key Town Councils in the valley including Saltash.

We have close links with Tamar Valley AONB, in fact we were started by TV AONB just over 20 years ago.

We are also the delivery partner for one of the Tamara Landscape Partnership projects focussed on promoting tourism in the valley called "Come Visit, Stay Awhile". The aim of this project is to stimulate a sustainable increase in visitor numbers and opportunities for local businesses in the Tamar Valley. <a href="https://tamaralandscapepartnership.org.uk/sustainable-tourism/">https://tamaralandscapepartnership.org.uk/sustainable-tourism/</a>

Our visitor facing website is: <a href="https://visittamarvalley.co.uk/">https://visittamarvalley.co.uk/</a>

More details of our membership opportunities for local businesses are available here: https://visittamarvalley.co.uk/become-a-member

End of Report.

#### <u>The Core Youth Project</u> End of year report to Saltash Town Council – February 2023

Our mission statement is:

'The Core aims to provide young people with opportunities and activities which help build positive relationships, strengthen and develop self esteem/confidence and empower them to have a positive impact on their community'

#### What the money has been spent on and what has been delivered.

The money that Saltash Town Council awarded The Core Youth Project continues to employ our Youth Work Coordinator who manages and develops the youth provision at the centre. We have a staff team of 1 full time youth worker, 4 part time Youth Support Workers and 1 Trainee Youth Worker which has enabled us to continue to a wide variety of youth work sessions. The following projects are funded by STC and the match funding we have secured from other grants.

The following sessions are offered weekly at The Core for young people;

#### **Open Access Youth Sessions**

Senior club for 13-18 year olds every Monday evening 7-9pm Junior club for 11-13 year olds every Thursday evening 6.30-8.30pm

#### **Grub Club**

Cooking workshop every Monday 3.15-5pm (Years 7-13)

#### **Craft Club**

Arts and crafts workshop every Thursday 3.15-4.30pm (Years 7-13)

#### Just be You

LGBT+ support and social group every Monday 3.15-4.30pm

#### **Home Education Group**

First Monday of the month 10.30-12.30pm for parents and children who are home educated.

**Climbing Club –** Every Wednesday and Friday 3.45-6.30pm for children aged 5-18

Saltash Amateur Boxing Club - Every Wednesday and Sunday evening

We currently offer positive activities for young people 5 afternoons/evening of the week.

#### Match funding

iWill Fund - £5120 Waitrose - £975 Coop Local causes fund - £4292 Police and Crime Commissioner - £4997

#### Total = £15 384 + subscriptions from youth club sessions.

#### In house funding

- Weekly subscriptions for youth club
- Revenue from room hire at the centre Approx. £25,000 per year. Whilst this money is essentially raised to pay for the general running costs and other staffing costs, it does show that we are bringing in revenue to help keep the centre open for both the community and the young people.
- Fundraising and donations We hold regular events for families, craft fairs, toddler group and our community cafe which all help to bring in much needed revenue.

#### **Outcomes and outputs achieved**

Total current number of members at The Core = 240

Number of open access sessions delivered 2020/21 = 144 Plus 54 sessions which are booking only.

Number of young people receiving individual support = 21

Number of young people helped back in to employment, training or work = 6

Number of youth volunteer hours worked = 800-900 hours over the last year.

#### **Youth Work**

It has been the first full year where we have not had to adhere to any covid guidance and have had the opportunity to open up sessions fully and increase our numbers.

We have never seen our session as busy as they are presently and this is evidence that young people need places to go and socialise and take part in activities. It is essential that youth centre's continue to open their doors and provide professional youth work, a safe and non-judgmental space, advice and information and most importantly...fun!

Our mission is to offer young people not only a safe space to meet and socialise but also a range of support and activities to keep them healthy and happy and ensure that we make our programme diverse and interesting. Our programme offers; Cooking courses, Craft club, a range of sporting activities; to include boxing and climbing clubs, LGBTQ+ support group, 1:1 advice and guidance, Sexual health advice, training and volunteering opportunities; to include a youth committee.

We offer various opportunities for young people to volunteer and have a committed team who regularly help at our Junior Youth Club and LGBTQ+ group and also our Youth Committee who we support to organise their own fundraising activities and also continue to ensure that young people stay central to the work that we do and their voices are heard.

A vast majority of the young people who attend our sessions have experienced difficulties at school, have chaotic and sometimes unsafe home lives, are young carers, suffer with mental health problems, such as anxiety, low mood or self harm, are transgender or questioning their sexuality, have experienced bullying, are looked after children, suffer with autism/aspergus syndrome or have a disability (learning or physical) or are just finding the transition from childhood to adulthood difficult and need some support.

We work with a great deal of young people who have been through traumatic events in their lives and are experiencing a complexity of problems, by providing them with a safe space to come and access to professionally trained youth workers they have begun to increase in confidence and develop as individuals. We have seen an increase in young people requiring specialist support from agencies such as CAMHS and the Early Help Team due to their poor mental health, especially amongst our LGBTQ+ group.

Our Youth Work Coordinator is a qualified Trauma Informed practitioner which has helped in supporting those young people with more complex needs.

Our successful partnership working with a range of outside agencies and local organisations has meant that we are able to offer more opportunities and activities for the young people we work with. We continue to work closely with Safer Saltash, Saltash Community School, Intercom Trust, Early Help Team and Social Care, Police, Saltash Health Centre, Young People Cornwall, Saltash Town Youth Council and local town events.

We hope it is evident from this report that the funding which we receive from Saltash Town Council is essential in enabling us to continue to provide and develop a professional and innovative service to the young people of Saltash and the surrounding villages.

#### End of Report

#### **ANNUAL REPORT OF STYC 2022**

Saltash Town Youth Council have met regularly over the past year – and we are now pretty much 'back to normal'. We have continued to offer support to our youth organisations by way of Grants and send regular emails keeping everyone up to date with all the help that is available including outside funding, training courses etc.

Some of the Youth Organisations continue to struggle especially with the lack of adult volunteer leaders. These include Brownies and Scouts and St John Ambulance Cadets and Badgers. Without willing leaders these organisations simply cannot function.

STYC supported our members at the Mayfair by sponsoring the Youth Village in Victoria Gardens. This venue proved popular and whilst not all organisations were in attendance due to lack of volunteers, we hope to be invited back by the May Fair committee and build on this for next year.

STYC have, since January 2022 awarded grants to Waterside Explorer Scouts, (first aid training), The Core (for summer holiday activities), Saltash United Youth Football Club (Tournament), Saltash Baptist Church Youth Club (marquee for camps), Town Junior band (new learner music books), Livewire (sound engineer training), Girl guiding (contribution towards their camping trip). We have also bought resuscitation training equipment for use by all STYC members to help teach young people vital life saving techniques.

We have also started a crisis fund that our member organisations can apply to. This was set up to ensure that young people/families who are experiencing financial difficulties can still access their clubs. STYC pay the subs direct to the club to a max of £100 per organisation. This ensures children don't miss out and ensures the organisations can still cover their costs. With the current financial crisis we feel that this, especially over the coming months will prove to be a very valuable lifeline to some young people and families.

We would also like to encourage any youth organisations in the town who are not affiliated to the Youth Council to join us and benefit from the grants and information/connections we have.

Also attached is a list of 60+ Youth clubs/organisations/facilities we have in the town – these include our current members, not for profit, charities, National youth groups and private businesses. This is just a simple list for anyone who wants to know what is available to young people in the area – all clubs and up to date information can be found using a simple internet search of google/facebook which will bring up the suitable ages/venues/days/contact details etc. Not all clubs have a specific youth section but will welcome young people with a parent/carer. Please feel free to add this list to your website and let us know of any clubs that you feel should be added. Saltash young people, unlike many towns in Cornwall have access to a wide ranging and thriving youth organisation network. We as a committee recognise how vital it is to support these clubs and thus the mental health and well being of young people. We will, with your help continue to support them in any and every way that we can.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Saltash Town Council for their continued support which will undoubtedly prove vital to sustain us through the next difficult year.





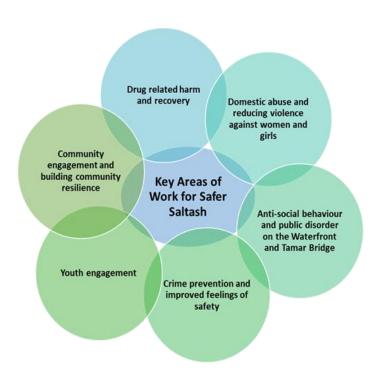


### Safer Saltash Year to Date Summary 2022/23

Safer Saltash facilitates and supports a coordinated multi-agency approach to community safety issues to improve feelings of safety and public reassurance, reduce the risk of harm to the community and protect vulnerable groups.

Safer Saltash involves community members in the work of the partnership and encourages social inclusion and community participation through being part of the problem-solving process and having a sense of pride in Saltash.

This group is now in its fifth year and has developed a comprehensive work plan based on the evidence presented in the previous Saltash Town Profile and feedback from the Residents Survey. Safer Saltash has identified the following community safety priorities for the Town:



https://safercornwall.co.uk/safer-saltash/

#### **Reported Crime**

Overall, as of October 2022 the overall crime rate has remained fairly consistent with previous years with a 1% reduction in total crime. There has been an increase in shoplifting offences and other sexual offences reported, but the numbers are low in comparison to other similar towns.

Broad Group	12m to Oct-21	12m to Oct-22	n	%
Burglary Dwelling	18	8	-10	-56%
Burglary Non-Dwelling	11	9	-2	-18%
Criminal Damage	125	102	-23	
Non Crime Domestic	105	112	7	7%
Other Offences	22	15	-7	-32%
Other Sexual Offences	13	20	7	54%
Other Theft	51	49	-2	-4%
Possession of Drugs	21	20	-1	-5%
Possession of Weapons	8	8	0	0%
Public Order Offences	45	49	4	9%
Rape	16	8	-8	-50%
Robbery	<5	<5		
Shoplifting	31	42	11	35%
Stalking and Harassment	113	103	-10	-9%
Trafficking of Drugs	10	7	-3	-30%
Vehicle Offences	37	32	-5	-14%
Violence with Injury	93	99	6	6%
Violence without Injury	95	121	26	
Grand Total	817	806	-11	-1%

#### Safer Saltash Delivery 2022/23

Safer Saltash continues to meet virtually every 4 weeks to ensure that regular dynamic intelligence and updates about emerging community safety, crime and antisocial behaviour across the town is fed in and acted upon. This year we have; continued to address pockets of antisocial behaviour in the town through a balance of support and enforcement measures; targeted work at the Waterside to address specific concerns; supported the Police 'Have your Say' public engagement event in January; worked with civil enforcement partners to focus activity in hotspot locations; advocated for the implementation of a live monitored CCTV system in Saltash; worked in partnership with the 'Caradon Team Around the School' group to bring in improvements for young people and their families and facilitated the sharing of intelligence with organisations responsible for road safety.

Looking to 2023/24, Safer Saltash has planned an environmental visual audit in several areas in the town. This audit will involve a number of partners from a raft of different agencies, coming together to assess the physical space and agree actions to improve the area in line with situational crime prevention strategies. We will continue to work with the local youth provision organisations and the secondary school to support young people and address any concerns. We are planning a celebration of diversity and hope that the young people of Saltash will assist in coproducing the event/activity. We will be increasing face to face multi agency engagement at public events such as the Town Council led event\_'Shop Your Town' on 2<sup>nd</sup> March and Saltash Pride celebration on 3<sup>rd</sup> June.

#### **REPORT IT!**

There are a wide range of services and support available to respond to concerns about crime, antisocial behaviour and other issues that impact on community safety;

#### **Report a Crime**

Call 999 if you or someone else is in immediate danger, or if the crime is happening right now. To report non-emergency crime or queries visit <a href="www.dc.police.uk">www.dc.police.uk</a> where you can access the police's online contact methods — WebChat and Crime Reporting Form. These are available to use 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. If it's not an emergency, you can also report it to the police using 101. Email <a href="mailto:101@dc.police.uk">101@dc.police.uk</a> Telephone 101 If you are unsure which service you need AskNED the online non-emergency directory can help. Visit <a href="www.dc.police.uk/AskNED">www.dc.police.uk/AskNED</a> enter your question, select your location and AskNED will provide you with the answer. Remember, in an emergency always call 999. If you have information about a crime you can also contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

#### **Report Anti-Social Behaviour**

Antisocial behaviour covers a wide range of acts that can include verbal abuse, vandalism, joyriding, noise nuisance, criminal damage, throwing missiles, underage drinking, engaging in threatening behaviour in groups or harassment of residents or passers-by. To report incidents of antisocial behaviour visit <a href="www.dc.police.uk">www.dc.police.uk</a> where you can access the police's online contact methods — WebChat and Crime Reporting Form.

These are available to use 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. If it's not an emergency, you can also report it to the police using 101. Email 101@dc.police.uk

**Telephone 101** (In an emergency always call 999)

#### Tell us if someone is sleeping rough

If you see someone sleeping rough you can contact Streetlink via <a href="www.streetlink.org.uk">www.streetlink.org.uk</a> or 0300 500 0914 (or 999 if they need urgent medical assistance). If you are sleeping rough and need help, contact the Cornwall Housing Options Team on 0300 1234 161 or drop into a Cornwall Council Information Service Office (formerly called One Stop Shop).

#### Report noise nuisance or a licensing complaint

#### **Noise Nuisance**

Neighbour noise (e.g., loud music, barking dogs) can constitute a statutory nuisance if this causes an unreasonable interference to the use and enjoyment of your home. Visit <a href="www.cornwall.gov.uk/noise">www.cornwall.gov.uk/noise</a> for further details, including how to make a complaint to the Cornwall Council's Community Protection team.

Telephone 0300 1234 212 Email <u>publicprotection@cornwall.gov.uk</u>

#### Licences

To find out more about alcohol and entertainment licences or report a licensing complaint please visit: **Online www.cornwall.gov.uk** 

Email <u>licensing@cornwall.gov.uk</u>

#### Report Drug Litter, Rubbish & Graffiti

If you find discarded needles or drug related litter, do not attempt to pick it up. Please report the location to Cornwall Council's Waste Management Team via the webpage <a href="www.cornwall.gov.uk/needles">www.cornwall.gov.uk/needles</a> or telephone 0300 1234 141. To report graffiti, fly tipping, littering, abandoned vehicles and dog fouling please use the "Report It" pages on the Cornwall Council website <a href="www.cornwall.gov.uk/report-it">www.cornwall.gov.uk/report-it</a>

#### **Report Hate Crime**

Hate crime is the term used to describe an incident or crime against someone because of hostility or prejudice towards their disability, race or ethnicity, religion or belief (which includes non-belief), sexual orientation and gender identity. It's important to report it so that the police can take action. If you or someone else is in danger, injured or offenders are nearby, ring 999. In a non-emergency please call 101.

You can also **text 67101** or **email**: **101@dc.police.uk** If you are deaf, hard of hearing or have any speech impairment, in an emergency dial **Minicom/Textphone 18001**. If it's not an emergency, dial **18001 101** For more ways to report hate crime go to **www.devon-cornwall.police.uk/hate crime** or **www.stophateuk.org** 

#### **Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence**

Anyone can experience domestic abuse or sexual violence – it affects people of all ages, regardless of gender, sexuality, ethnicity and background. There are specialist services available to support you. If you or anyone else is in danger, please call the police on 999 immediately. If you ring 999 but can't talk, make sure the police know you are there by coughing or tapping the handset, or by dialling 55. In a non-emergency please call 101. You can also **text 67101** or **email**: 101@dc.police.uk If you are deaf, hard of hearing or have any speech impairment, in an emergency please dial Minicom/Textphone 18001. If it's not an emergency, dial 18001 101.

#### What is domestic abuse?

Domestic abuse is defined as controlling, coercive or threatening behaviour, violence or abuse. Our services are delivered to children and young people who are, or have been, intimate partners or are family members. It can take many forms and includes psychological, physical, sexual, financial and emotional abuse, stalking, so-called 'honour'-based abuse, forced marriage and the illegal practice of Female Genital Mutilation.

#### Sexual violence and abuse

Sexual violence and abuse is a broad term describing all sexual offences against adults and children. It occurs when the person is forced, coerced or deceived into sexual acts against their will or without their consent. Sexual violence and abuse can happen to anyone in our community. It does not have to be a single act, but can occur as part of a continuum of attitudes and actions.

#### Worried about a child?

The Multi-Agency Referral Unit (MARU) provides a multi-disciplinary response to concerns about the welfare or safety of a child or young person in line with statutory guidance from Our Safeguarding Children Partnership for Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly. The multi-disciplinary team also provides advice and guidance to parents and professionals about the wide range of services available to children and families in Cornwall. If you have immediate concerns or are worried about a child or young person's safety—please telephone the MARU on **0300 123 1116**.

## Agenda Item 8r

#### **TOWN TEAM – Report to Annual Parishioner Meeting 2023**

In the last 12 months, Town Team has been very active. As a group comprising Town and Cornwall Councillors and members from the Chamber of Commerce and Community Enterprises, it has proved a success for common thinking between the public and private sectors.

The permanent speaker system installed in Fore Street proved very useful during the Jubilee celebrations and the Christmas Festival/lead up to Christmas. There are one or two issues still outstanding before the system can be used more regularly to entertain shoppers.

We were successful in securing a grant under the Vitality Fund which will be used by consultants to assess how we can create 'a new green realm to form the retail heart of the town'. Through a lengthy process consultants have now been appointed and the process of data interrogation and public consultation is starting. The work will take 6 months to prepare conceptual designs and feasibility study.

Our latest addition to Fore Street is the Brunel Bench which is near the pedestrian crossing half way up Fore Street. Having secured funding through S.106 monies Thrussells were commissioned to design and construct the bench which weighs 320 kg (6½ cwt) and is made of steel, copper with stainless steel fixings. The sculptors are Bodmin based and all materials were sourced from Cornish based suppliers but had to be taken into Devon for galvanising (there are no galvanisers in Cornwall). Feedback from shoppers has been very positive. We are now looking to place an information board nearby with some information on Brunel and the bridge. We are also looking at other seating opportunities as we realise that, at 360 m long and an incline of 1 in 15, Fore Street is difficult for some people to traverse the length and opportunities to sit down would be useful and encourage people to dwell longer.

Other matters we have been considering are the creation of a town guide and the possibility of more trees to give some shade on hot summers days.

Peter Ryland

ACTING CHAIRMAN

## Agenda Item 8s

#### Saltash Plastic Free (Surfers Against Sewerage )

Unfortunately, the person leading the campaign for Saltash is now unable to commit to the program.

Therefore it was discussed at the Climate Change group to change the" lead person" to one of the group, so that we able to continue with the few remaining assessments required to gain the award.

Cllr Peggs is to contact SAS to instigate this.

#### **End of report**

## Agenda Item 8t

## Report To Saltash Town Council – Annual Town Meeting with Parishioners of Saltash 02/03/2023

#### **Saltash Bowls Club**

After the Covid lockdown, members of Saltash Bowls Club returned enthusiastically to the 2022 season. Our Open Day brought in several new players who enjoyed the free coaching sessions and are now well integrated into the club.

The 'non-competitive' afternoons and evenings were well attended, giving time to practise without pressure and then socialise afterwards in the clubhouse.

We also had mixed friendly games, both home and away, against other clubs in Cornwall and Devon. These are always popular.

Both mens and ladies teams had successes during the season, gaining County honours, with a ladies team representing Cornwall at the National Championships.

We had several coaching sessions with local schoolchildren and they did well at the Schools tournament. They are the future of bowls so we hope they continue to play.

This season, 2023, marks the centenary of Saltash Bowls Club and we have arranged matches against visiting teams, including Bowls England, to commemorate this.

Spectators are welcome to come and watch. We will be wearing smart, new shirts especially designed for our centenary.

At the beginning of the season, in April, we will again be holding Open Days for anyone to give bowls a try, so look out for more information.

Bowls is for everyone, no matter what age or ability. Come and give it a go.

#### **END OF REPORT**





We are a Saltash based craft and support group. Pysanka was formed in October 2022 to support Ukrainian families finding safety in Saltash having escaped the war in Ukraine. This has been expanded recently to include members from the whole community. We support each other, share life hacks, and have lots of laughs over a slice of cake.

We learn about crafting, provide companionship, and create lovely things together. This is a purpose led group and we offer our creations for sale to fundraise for humanitarian aid projects in Ukraine. We have raised £1408 so far which has been donated to Outreach Paramedics CIC and contributed to the provision of 2 emergency ambulances, ½ tonne of medical supplies and the deployment of 4 volunteer paramedics to deliver training to the Ukrainian Fire Service.





#### Saltash Foodbank

The foodbank is pleased to be asked to report to the Council's Annual Parishioners meeting. Saltash Foodbank is a Trussell Trust Foodbank established in 2011 by Saltash Churches Together. Three days' worth of food for a balanced diet can be accessed by residents of Saltash and surrounding villages, who are experiencing a financial crisis, by referral from an agency that is supporting them.

Since the start of Covid-19 we have seen the numbers needing our help increase and the recent cost of living has increased the demand even further. We have over 50 volunteers, an increase on other years, due to an increase in the need for our services. We have no paid staff, we are all volunteers. Last year we supported 548 households, comprising of 835 adults and 573 children, so a total of 1,408 individuals were supported with at least 3 days of food. A breakdown of our figures can be found on <a href="https://bit.ly/3kvZH3">https://bit.ly/3kvZH3</a>n

These were our main sources of referrals in 2022: Job Centre (93), Help Through Hardship (Citizens Advice and Trussell Trust Helpline started during Covid19 - 08082082138) (83) and Christians Against Poverty - CAP (42). The main reason given for many was low income, where a household's income did not cover their outgoings, with the income either as earnings and /or benefits.

Saltash foodbank received over 40.5 tons of food last year from supermarket donation points, supermarket collections, community groups, churches and items from supermarkets themselves, just past their best before date or slightly damaged on the outside. We distributed over 39.5 tons to clients direct, to breakfast and after-school clubs, charities, other food organisations and local foodbanks, when we have a surplus. Thank you to all that donate to the foodbank.

In December we distributed to 138 families a Christmas Hamper with ambient Christmas food items and added surplus food items, with additional gifts to 138 families. This included 202 adults and 205 children. These families were invited to receive a hamper via our many referral agencies. Additionally, we also managed to maintain the regular food support to clients referred to us.

#### **Further support**

As our premises are extremely small, we now also use the converted toilet block in the other Belle Vue Road Car park as our overflow store. This has allowed us to store surplus items and helps with our Christmas Hampers over the last few years.

We struggle to meet up with clients for a confidential chat about their circumstances at our current premises at 18 Belle Vue Road so have now developed a team of signposting volunteers from our volunteer pool who call the client after a period of time, since they had received a food parcel from us, to discuss their situation. This allows us to speak with them over the phone at a less stressful time and see if they need further signposting, especially to let them know about activities happening locally in Saltash, such as Saltash Community Fridge and Warm Spaces as well as other organisations that could help them. I know many of the activities at the Community Kitchen and PL12 Community Shop have been welcomed by our clients.

This winter has been especially challenging, as has last year prior to the energy cost rise. We are grateful to have been successful in several grants last year to allow us to help clients who were struggling with their energy costs, in particular, those that are on prepayment meters. In the last year we have signed up with the Fuelbank Foundation to issue voucher codes to clients on prepayment meters, to their phones. The voucher code can then be redeemed at a shop or post office on to their meter. This relieved our treasurer from having to meet clients in a shop to top up their pre-payment cards. This year there have not been many grants available, other than some support

from the Fuelbank Foundation. The foodbank trustees have therefore agreed to allow some of our funds to be used to help our clients with energy during the cold weather months.

This winter we received a £5,000 grant from the Trussell Trust to help us with volunteering costs, buy in food and purchase items for our clients to stay warm this winter and/or to save them money. Several duvets, blankets, thermals, hats, gloves, thermal socks and slow cookers have been purchased with this fund. We also are able to keep our freephone number going, with grant funding from the Cornwall Community Foundation.

We have also managed to receive support from Databank and have been able to support several clients with free SIMs with data, or a data voucher, depending on their network provider. This has been essential to those needing to access their Universal Credit journal to record job searches, to contact a health professional or a support agency as they are struggling to pay their phone costs.

We hope to soon work with Callington Foodbank to share an extra Citizens Advice staff member to help our clients with their issues, for a few hours a week. This is due to funding from Trussell Trust.

#### Our concerns for the future

We cannot see an end to the cost-of-living crisis which affects people's health, both physical and mental. People are unable to heat their homes properly and generally only heat one room, so there is an increase in dampness and mould in people's houses. This is on top of a housing crisis. We are aware of an increasing number of people 'sofa surfing' for many years before they will be housed in social housing and people in temporary accommodation waiting for months to be homed, some with young children or with health problems. These are the hidden homeless. We are likely to see more of these as rents have increased recently and income has not kept up with the increase.

With the current cost-of-living increases, many people are cutting back on other items and repeated visits for our food parcels is not ideal. Many people we see wish to be independent and do not wish to rely on charity. We hope there will be a type of social supermarket in Saltash, to allow those on a low-income purchase food at low cost. This is especially needed if government support with energy is being withdrawn soon and people are already struggling to afford the essentials. Ideally, benefits need to be increased to cover the rise in inflation.

I would like to express my sincere thanks to all the Foodbank volunteers, old and new who are making a huge difference to those we support. I would especially like to thank the many Foodbank trustees for their support and hard work to support those in need. Especially Richard (Chair of Trustees), Jill (Treasurer and Trustee), Charles (Special Projects and Trustee), Corina (Secretary and Trustee), Jackie (Signposting and Trustee), Sara (Agency and Trustee), Revd. Di (Churches Together and Trustee) and Kathryn (Volunteering and Trustee). I could not do this without you all.

Thank you.

Rika Chanter

Saltash Foodbank Manager (Voluntary) 28th February 2023

Registered Charity Number 1157577

## Agenda Item 8w

# Saltash Rotary Club, Report to Annual Meeting of Saltash Town Council, March 2022

Over the past 12 months, the Rotary Club of Saltash has bounced back from the confines of lock-down and is again very active in the local community. We can reflect on a number of projects and achievements, some of which have been well publicised in the local press, whilst some may have drawn less attention but are nonetheless of equal importance.

After much work by both the Rotary Club and Saltash Town Council, the Phone Box Defibrillator outside Isambard House was finally unveiled and made operative in October of last year and was actively used in just a matter of days. Members of the Rotary Club had spent many hours removing layers of old paint from the phone box before repainting on the official telephone box Currant Red. Missing and damaged panes were replaced and the previously redundant and neglected box was brought back to life, with the official opening performed by the Mayor, Cllr Richard Bickford.

Another defibrillator, the one in Fore Street, was replaced to coincide with the opening of the phone box defibrillator, to bring this installation up to meet latest requirements. There is a programme of regular checking and minor maintenance provided by members of Rotary.

Two of Saltash's most famous residents, or should we say statues, were given a facelift, with Anne Glanville and I K Brunel now looking resplendent at their homes on the Waterside.

Whilst on the subject of the Waterside and the Waterfront, members of the Rotary Club repainted the benches in readiness for the Jubilee of her late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, having received the necessary permissions and approval to carry out this work.

Saltash Rotary Club provided marshalling for the Beating of the Bounds event held in September 2022 and will do so again in May of this year. Members of Rotary also assisted with providing refreshments and freshly baked scones for those returning to Isambard House at the end of the day.

Saltash Rotary has been active in supporting the residents of Ukraine to help bring some relief from the awful effects of Russian aggression and the illegal invasion. A coffee morning saw funds raised to help with urgent medical supplies, whilst Saltash Rotary also joined the Shoebox scheme, which saw essential hygiene and everyday medical supplies packaged into shoebox size cartons, before being transported to Ukraine and handed to those most in need.

Saltash Rotary Club enjoys a great relationship with Ashtorre Rock and has provided pasties, together with delicious home-made cakes for the enjoyment of visitors to events such as Regatta, the Saltash Model Club weekend and more besides. We also provided pasties, filled rolls, pastries and home-made cakes at the Christmas Craft Day in the Guildhall during December 2022 with the profits being donated to the Mayor's Charity.

Our popular annual Quiz Night was held at the Guildhall, raising £500 for the Carol Lay Foundation, with the funds being donated to Childrens Hospice South West.

Rotary continues to maintain the beautiful flower boats that can be found in various locations around the Town. A replacement boat, kindly and generously gifted by the Sailing Club and facilitated by Mayor Cllr Richard Bickford, was sited at Pillmere, where it replaced an earlier boat that had suffered damage and deterioration over recent years. The new boat, named as Pride of Pillmere II, will be planted in conjunction with the Pillmere Residents Association, over the coming weeks.

Since the beginning of the covid vaccine programme, Saltash Rotary has been assisting the healthcare professionals by providing meet and greet personnel, car parking marshals and other supporting roles, with the past year being no exception, including the most recent programme held at Isambard House in late 2022.

Probably our most high-profile event takes place at Christmas when Santa visits Saltash and can be found on his favourite Rotary Sleigh, or at various locations around the Town. In November 2022 Santa gave the Mayor a lift in his sleigh, proceeding to Victoria Gardens from where the Town's Christmas lights were switched on. Our presence alongside Santa is our main fund-raising event of the year and we pay tribute to the amazing generosity of residents and visitors, which did not wane during the current cost-of-living crisis, enabling Saltash Rotary Club to continue with the charitable work and assistance we provide.

Pete Samuels, President of Saltash Rotary Club 2022-23

## Agenda Item 8x

#### Saltash and District Royal British Legion

My name is David Newman and I have the honour of being Chairman of the Saltash and District RBL.

The Legion itself was formed in May 1921, its aim to cater for the needs of ex service men and women. On its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 1971 the Queen gave it a royal title so becoming Royal British Legion, our branch celebrated its centenary in June 2022.

The Saltash branch endeavours to serve the people of Saltash and District especially ex service veterans. We give help and advice on many aspects of life, be it form filling i.e. PIP, where to find support groups, financial or health problems. We undertake hospital visits, become telephone buddies as we find a short visit or talk helps the elderly and lonely.

Finally we are always happy to parade our standards at events in Saltash and funerals of veterans, if the families would like them.

## Agenda Item 8y

#### **Report to Saltash Town Council**

#### NHS Patient Participation Groups - Port View Surgery & Saltash Health Centre

The NHS requires all GP Practices to ensure the involvement of patients in its work. The nature and pattern of patient participation varies greatly across the country. In Saltash, Patient Participation Groups (PPGs) are well established, and good cooperation exists with the staff of the Practices. Both PPGs meet regularly with Practice Managers and other staff. Membership of the groups has grown well in the last year.

We see the role of PPGs as "to support and to challenge" the Practices. Feedback from patients about their experiences, good and bad, is a key part of the process. We have undertaken regular surveys to get the views of a wider group of patients, and we analyse the results and report back. We get a positive response to this process from the Practices.

The pandemic disrupted the way care is made available, and it would be fair to say that a normal service has not yet returned. Staff sickness and difficulties in recruiting professional staff have been at the heart of the problems, which has been made worse by the wider national crisis in the NHS. Nevertheless, PPGs have contributed to discussions about how to deal with such problems.

In the last twelve months the two PPGs have established a joint "partnership group", with three PPG members from each Practice meeting regularly. Our main objective has been to encourage the Practices to work together more to establish coherent services across the town, which should make better use of the resources available.

We have also put much effort into resurrecting the process of finding a new role for St Barnabas Hospital, closed to in-patients and for Minor Injuries more than six years ago. We have linked up with the League of Friends of the hospital in this endeavour. All of us have been very disappointed with the lack of urgency among local NHS managers over this, and we have represented citizen views strongly. Just recently, we have seen signs of our advocacy beginning to kick-start some action. We hope the town will be able to see the results of this in our report to the Council next year!

Peter Thistlethwaite George Muirhead

Chair Chair

Port View Surgery PPG Saltash Health Centre PPG

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