

**To receive a request to support a tribute to Major-General Sir William Penn Symons and consider any actions and associated expenditure**

General Sir William is an important figure in Military history. His father was the Senior Judge of the local Court at Saltash Guildhall. He lived at Hatt House, Saltash.

Sir William was a distinguished soldier. He was the first General Officer to be killed in the Boer War. A 'Crowdfunding' campaign raised enough money for his fine memorial in Victoria Gardens.

Recent research revealed that Saltash had never paid tribute to him since his memorial was unveiled in 1901. A very small working group determined to do something about it by way of a simple ceremony for the 125th anniversary of his death on Wednesday 23rd October 2024.

This small, self-funded, group has organised high profile remembrance events like the six Saltash firemen killed in the 1941 blitz, William Odgers V.C. and Saltash and D-Day. The Penn Symons family very much support the group.

This tribute now looks like being an historic and even high profile event as word has spread. We believe that it should be bigger than that organised by our small group, and we invite the support of Saltash Town Council as a way of 'showcasing' our town to a wide audience.

We have now invited many Cornwall dignitaries, families and office-holders, whose predecessors were present at the memorial unveiling in 1901. This includes the King's representative, The Lord Lieutenant of Cornwall, Lord Mayor of Plymouth, Chief Constable and possibly the Earl of St. Germans, Edgcumbe family, Lord St. Levan, Lord Boyd, Sir Richard Carew Pole, local Mayors, local Senior Army and Navy Officers, a Royal Welsh regiment, and the D.C.L.I. museum representatives and China Fleet Club.

We should be happy to co-host the event with our Town Mayor on behalf of our Town.

Council is asked whether it wishes to support the event. This could be done in a number of ways:

1. Provision of Flags/Bunting to add colour to the Memorial and Maurice Huggins room.
2. Provision of microphone/loudspeaker.
3. Production of a simple programme. The independent local working group has so far covered costs and is prepared to continue to do so.

We believe that the benefit to our Town would be more than repaid in terms of positive P.R. in caring about and remembering our own, especially our 'fallen' in what could be described as an historic event and would in a way complement the excellent and important Council project to remember the missing names of the 'the fallen' from our W.W.1 and W.W.2 memorials.

Beverly Gordon

Secretary