

## A request to plant the Coronation Tree for Cornwall in Victoria Gardens

In celebration of the King's Coronation, each Lord Lieutenant across the country was gifted the planting of a tree by His Majesty. Cornwall's Lord Lieutenant, Colonel Sir Edward Thomas Bolitho KCVO OBE, initially hoped to plant the Cornwall Coronation tree on Carkeel roundabout. However, after extensive discussions with National Highways, and despite a letter of support from Saltash Town Council, this location was ultimately deemed unsuitable. Nevertheless, the Lord Lieutenant remains keen to have the tree planted in Saltash.

In September, a meeting took place to identify a suitable site for the tree, attended by Councillor Julia Peggs (Mayor of Saltash), Adrian White (Chair of Saltash Environmental Action and a Saltash tree warden), Judith Allen and Derek Holley (Saltash tree wardens), and Cornwall Councillor Hilary Frank. After careful consideration, all parties agreed that the most fitting location would be in Victoria Gardens, next to the steps leading to the upper part of the Gardens and the Maurice Huggins Room, as shown in the images below.

Although there is currently a tree on this site, it was agreed that it has reached the end of its natural life and should be removed. The final decision on the type of tree to be planted will be made by the Lord Lieutenant in consultation with the Duchy Forester. However, the Saltash group has recommended planting an oak tree.

The Lord Lieutenant's office is currently in the process of seeking permission from Cornwall Council as the landowner for the planting, but, cognisant that Saltash Town Council is at an advanced stage of negotiations with Cornwall Council to lease the Gardens, would like to request Town Council's approval for the planting.

