

ShelterBox online



Cornish international disaster relief charity, ShelterBox, has launched an online shop to sell a range of branded gifts. ShelterBox supporters can now buy Christmas cards, calendars, ShelterBox books and homeware, including mugs and tea-towels, as well as branded clothing, from hoodies to rugby shirts. Many of the products also feature Cornwall's iconic St Piran's flag. Danny Whear, one of the team behind the e-shop, says: "There was a lot of demand for ShelterBox merchandise and we're really excited to have launched this shop in time for Christmas. The site has been designed to be easy to use and secure so you can support ShelterBox safe in the knowledge that your money will make a real difference to people caught up in the aftermath of a disaster." The online shop will also help launch ShelterBox Global Gifts, allowing supporters to purchase a donation for someone else. ShelterBox is an international disaster relief charity specialising in providing emergency shelter and survival equipment. **For further information on ShelterBox and the ShelterBox Online Shop visit: www.shelterbox.org**

A cut above the rest



Launceston hair salon Craig Chapman has reached the finals of no less than three prestigious British Hairdressing Awards, the "Oscars" of the hair world. As well as representing Cornwall in the bid for Wales and Southwest Hairdresser of the Year, the salon

beat off nationwide competition to gain a place in the finals of both Avant Garde Hairdresser of the Year and Afro Hairdresser of the Year. The British Hairdressing Awards were established in 1984 by Hairdressers Journal International, a leading trade magazine, to celebrate the best of British hairdressing creativity. The winner will be announced in November at the British Hairdressing Awards at the Grosvenor House Hotel, London.

Business in bloom

A business scheme designed to inject European investment into the Cornish farming industry is proving a success. Since the Business Forward project began in January 2009, hundreds of agricultural workers throughout the Duchy have benefitted, including Jenny Rogers, of Chywithan Farm near Hayle, who has developed a home-based floristry enterprise that allows her to work and still be a full-time mother to her young daughter. It's hoped hundreds more will take advantage of the scheme before it closes in December this year. Workshops provide information on grant funding for farm investment projects, renewable energy schemes, and marketing and business management skills. Mentoring and business-development workshops are also available. **For more information, visit www.businessforward.org.uk**



Arise, Sir Nigel

A St Ives-based beer consultant has been awarded the title of Honorary Knight by the Guild of Belgian Brewers. Nigel Stevenson, of speciality beer importers James Clay, has been made 'Honorary Knight of Brewers' Mashstaff' by the Guild of Belgian Brewers in the Grand Place, Brussels.

For centuries, the knighthood or 'Chevalerie du Fourquet des Brasseurs' has been bestowed upon individuals who are deemed to have rendered great service to the Belgian brewing profession. "We're delighted that Nigel's work within the brewing industry has been recognised in such a way," says Ian Clay, managing director of James Clay and himself a recipient of this award back in 2002. "Nigel is well-known by brewers, buyers and bar-owners alike, with a great knowledge and passion for speciality beers." Sir Nigel, who moved to St Ives for the surfing, says: "To be invited to join the ranks of the knights is quite an honour. The ceremony included a good helping of pageantry with elegantly robed dignitaries and fanfares of trumpets."

