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The Riverporter

COVERING THE NEWS FOR ST IVES AND AROUND

Issue 168: 27 September 2024

A TOTALLY INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER • UNCONNECTED WITH ANY GROUP OR ORGANISATION

The Old Riverport swings

St Ives enjoyed a sunny weekend when the Old Riverport Jazz & Blues Festival brought good music and a *'great community spirit'*, according to comments from the many visitors.

This year's Festival was also declared one of the best by many people extolling the quality of performers.

Footfall figures show that around 4,000 more people are attracted to come to St Ives over the Festival's four days and many come from outside the area. One person even admitted coming from Huntingdon!

Many stay on campsites, in boats and even in the hotels and all contribute to and enjoy the friendly atmosphere.

The Mayor sent this message …

The Mayor of St Ives, Cllr Pasco Hussain would like to congratulate The organisers of the Old Riverport Jazz and Blues Festival 2024!

The Festival was a wonderful event, bringing in fantastic bands, which attracted huge audiences into the Town, bringing much enjoyment & trade to the businesses in the town over the weekend. There is so much work and effort that goes into these events and it ran seamlessly. Congratulations to all who helped to make it an overwhelming success.



We are used to seeing 'dancing in the street' but not usually on the roof of a boat. But that's how the music sometimes takes you at The Quay.

Sheila Stones, Chair of St Ives Town Team, the organisers, was delighted, *'It was our tenth year and we pushed the boat out a bit by engaging some of the best bands around and selling more T-shirts and producing a great double CD to mark the occasion.*

It seemed to pay off as the numbers of visitors shows. However the Team need more helpers if the Festival is to continue. Our success means the Festival will likely be even bigger in future. We are grateful to those people who came forward to help over the weekend but we are still looking for two or three more people who can join us to take on some of the tasks needed in the planning stages.'

If you wish to help please email: townteam@stivescambridgeshire.co.uk.

County to make repairs in good time

Following on from our report in our last issue ***Concern about speeding on The Waits*** we contacted Cambs County Council Highways to find out what is happening about the damaged bollards.

Their engineer told us that they are aware of the damage to the bollards and the area has been made safe with cones and barrier tape to highlight the defects to pedestrians and motorists and are currently planning repairs to be carried out. They also said that where damage has occurred to highway assets and there is evidence of a culprit. Cambridgeshire Highways would look to recharge the costs of the repair to the culprit or their insurance company.

That's good to know.



This picture taken by Susan Limentani was captioned, *St Ives at its best this afternoon combining the Heritage Open Day with the Jazz and Blues Festival. Locals and visitors enjoying the music, historic places and the electric boat trips.*

TONIGHT Friday 27th September

GETNOTGOT

Chapel Arts @ the Corn Exchange



Following their great performance at the Old Riverport Jazz & Blues Festival the band bring their contemporary jazz and funk sound.

Doors open at 6.45pm. Concert starts at 7.30pm. Tickets £10 on the door or from www.ticketsource.co.uk/cexevents

DIARY OF EVENTS

If you wish to inform us of your events please email: editor@theriverporter.uk

OCTOBER

Wednesday 2nd - Engage Talk -Bats Past and Present: the history and evolution of bats in Cambridgeshire - 2pm, St Ives Library

Friday 4th - Stand Up Comedy Night at St Ives Corn Exchange. Tickets are £5 from ticketsource.

Saturday 5th - Craft Fair. Saints Crafters Free Church 9:30am-FREE ENTRY.

Sunday 6th - Sound Bath, The Corn Exchange 10.30am till 11.30am. Booking at: bookwhen.com/soulcentredsound

Friday 11th - Chapel Arts concert with Upwood Ukuleles - St Ives Corn Exchange 7.30pm. Tickets: www.ticketsource.co.uk/cexevents or from the Bar.

Saturday 12th - The Old Riverport Ukulele Festival - SOLD OUT

Saturday 12th - Illuminated Boat Parade - The Quay. A FREE event.

Monday 14th - Fifth East Anglian Festival Network Show Burgess Hall

Monday 14th - Wednesday 16th - Michaelmas Fair - Town Centre.

Thursday 17th - Kate Rhodes (Crime Writer) Talk - 10:30am at St Ives Library. £5 per person, book at the Library.

Friday 18th - St Ives Age and Dementia Friendly Awareness Day – Together In Community to celebrate International Day of Older People, 10am to 2pm at the St Ives Corn Exchange.

Saturday 19th - Hunts Philatelic Society Stamp and Postcard Fair at Corn Exchange St Ives 10am-3pm. Free admission. Contact 01480 468037

Friday 25th - Chapel Arts concert with 4 Winds Sax Quartet - Four exceptional saxophonists. St Ives Corn Exchange 7.30pm. Tickets £10 from the Bar or www.ticketsource.co.uk/cexevents.

Thursday 24th -British Heart Foundation Quiz Night 7.30pm, St Ives Corn Exchange. 6 per table - £6 per person.

NOVEMBER

Saturday 2nd - Craft Fair. Saints Crafters Free Church 9:30am-FREE ENTRY.

Sunday 3rd - Sound Bath, The Corn Exchange 10.30am till 11.30am. Booking: bookwhen.com/soulcentredsound

Wednesday 6th - Engage Talk - Conserving St Ives - 2pm, Library

Thursday 7th - Kate Rhodes Creative Writing Workshop - 10:30am at St Ives Library. £6 per person, book at the Library.

Sunday 10th - Remembrance Parade.

Saturday 16th - Christmas Lights Switch-On

Saturday 23rd - ArtsFESt - St Ives Corn Exchange 10 am to 4 pm.

Friday 29th - Chapel Arts concert with Chris Newman & Humfry Finkel Corn Ex/ 7.30pm. Tickets £10 w ww.ticketsource.co.uk/cexevents.

Saturday 30th - Craft Fair. Saints Crafters Free Church 9:30am-FREE ENTRY.

DECEMBER

Sunday 1st - Sound Bath, Corn Exchange bookwhen.com/soulcentredsound

Wednesday 4th - Engage Talk - An Introduction to Leatherwork with Paul Smith - 2pm, St Ives Library

Saturday 7th - Craft Fair. Saints Crafters Free Church 9:30am-FREE ENTRY.

Saturday 7th - St Ives Community Choir concert Free Church at 7.30.

Saturday 14th - Santa Arrives at the Quay by boat

Saturday 14th/Sunday 15th - Santas Snow FESt St Ives Corn Exchange.

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SHOEBOXES FOR MOLDOVA & UKRAINE - 2024 APPEAL

The Rotary Club of St Ives are appealing for Christmas Shoeboxes that can be sent to Moldova and Ukraine. The boxes are handed personally to struggling families by the charity cr2ee, so you can be assured that your donation will reach a needy recipient, and will make such a lovely Christmas surprise for them.

The shoeboxes need to be received by the club on or before Saturday 16th November 2024 for dispatch in time for Christmas.

Please label each box with a guide to the intended recipient eg: -

Boy/Girl and age group
Man/Woman
Grandmother/Grandfather

Everything in your Christmas box must be new, a condition set by Customs. If used contents are found, the whole lorry load will be rejected and turned back to the UK.

Please avoid glass and wrap liquids securely to avoid leakage in the unlikely event of it being dropped when loaded/unloaded and distributed.

The boxes should be securely wrapped in Christmas paper after packing.

It would be lovely if a card or tag can be included, to give the recipient some idea of the sender, and make them realise someone is thinking about them.

Unsuitable items would be:

Medicines, anything that might injure a child such as small items that might be swallowed or sharp items such as scissors etc. No toy guns or swords please. Playing cards are frowned upon by many because of their association with gambling, so it's best not to send them. Bubble bath, because most people will be washing from a bowl with water drawn from a well.

Thank you so much for your kindness and generosity.

Please contact Rotarian Simon Townend on **01480 498054** for more details or to arrange collection.



Huntingdonshire Volunteer Centre

has upgraded its website where you can access lots of information. • Find volunteering opportunities • Find the form to register your organisation • See opportunities • Donate to us and find out anything else you need to know about us at HVC.

You can also complete our online form on our website to register to be a Volunteer Driver - it will only take 5 minutes to complete - and we will be in touch as soon as we receive your form to welcome you to the HVC Driver Team.

SSI Screen St Ives Community Cinema

Supported by
BOONGATE KIA
Home of the 7 year warranty
Peterborough PE1 5UA, Tel: 01733 344344



One Life

Thursday 3 October 2024 at 7:30pm
Doors open 6:30pm. Tickets £7
Director: James Hawes, 105m, Cert: 12
Synopsis: Based on the true story of British humanitarian Nicholas "Nicky" Winton, the film alternates between following *Anthony Hopkins* as a 79-year old Winton reminiscing on his past, and *Johnny Flynn* as a 29-year old Winton attempting to help groups of Jewish children in German-occupied Czechoslovakia to hide and flee in 1938–39, just before the beginning of World War II. Fifty years later, he's still haunted by the fate of those he wasn't able to bring to safety.



Perfect Days

Thursday 7 November 2024 at 7:30pm
Doors open 6:30pm. Tickets £7
Director: Wim Wenders, 125m, Cert: PG
Synopsis: A Japan and Germany co-production, the film follows the routine life of Hirayama (*Kōji Yakusho*), a public toilet cleaner in Tokyo where he feels content with his life as a toilet cleaner. Outside of his structured routine, he cherishes music on cassette tapes, reads books and takes photos. Through unexpected encounters, he reflects on finding beauty in the world.

Ticket at screenstives.org.uk or in the Corn Exchange

talking together

COPE
Cambridgeshire Older People's Enterprise

A FREE programme of stimulating telephone-based discussions for older adults

October – November 2024



The Riverporter decided to print details of this autumn's Talking Together sessions as it is a unique initiative that brings older adults together for stimulating telephone-based conversations about topics of shared interest. Just register for a group and COPE will do the rest.

Facilitated by a skilled leader. All groups take place on Monday and Thursday afternoons. **To register ring 01223 364303 or email: copetalkingtogether@hotmail.com.**

MONDAYS 1.15pm 7 28 October (4 weeks) **A virtual journey to the Botanical Gardens Cambridge** Marian French, facilitator

MONDAYS 2.15pm 7 October 11 November (6 weeks)
Book group: Small Pleasures by Clare Chambers Liz Williams, facilitator
We will be looking at the novel Small Pleasures by Clare Chambers, set in England in the 1950's. Copies of this novel will be provided to registered participants.

MONDAYS 3.15pm 7 October 11 November (6 weeks)
The fascination of fairy tales Professor William Randall, facilitator

THURSDAYS 1.15pm 10 October 14 November (6 weeks)
The industrial past of Cambridgeshire Kieran Gleave, facilitator

THURSDAYS 2.15pm 10 October 14 November (6 weeks)
Research into safer medicines and environments Facilitated by Toxicology Unit research staff.

Erik fully supports the Prime Minister's stance on the release of sausages!

On reading that Kier Starmer has demanded the immediate release of the sausages, Erik rushed around to Merrylands in town where a fabulous new bake shop has just opened with a large supply of sausages requiring urgent release. Erik checked out the issue and was further delighted by the amazing cakes, pastries and fresh bread. Following a serious taste test Erik liberated several items and is looking to return soon.



Meanwhile a posting on Facebook (right) appeared to fully support Erik's view on the situation.





Pictured is Basia of ***The Merrylands Bakery*** *helping Erik to 'release' another sausage!*

Town to celebrate 600th anniversary of our famous bridge next year

Plans are underway to celebrate the 600th anniversary of the town bridge. The Town Team are calling all interested parties to come to a meeting to discuss what might happen throughout the year.

The St Leger Chapel celebrations will take place in 2026, as the Chapel wasn't finished until 1426, but next year we hope to see a series of events based on the bridge's history.

This might include collecting tolls and a re-enactment of the blowing up of the bridge during the Civil War. The Civil War Society (below) are keen to bring their 450 members to help with the celebrations, something they did 14 years ago to celebrate the 900th anniversary of the Town's charter. If you or you organisation would like to be involved please email: **townteam@stivescambridgeshire.co.uk**



FOR SALE

A modern TOWN HOUSE set within a private gated courtyard in the heart of St Ives town centre.

This spacious accommodation has been very well finished and includes two double bedrooms, en-suite, bathroom, cloakroom, kitchen and lounge/diner.

Other features include underfloor heating, Amtico flooring, oak doors, solid oak worktops and a small private courtyard garden.

Ideal for Cambridge and the Guided Busway.

For details call 07913 346845

The Riverporter

Voted Best local newspaper of the year 2019/20 in the Cambridge Building Society's Community Magazine Awards



Erik loves sausages.

having your say ...

Get it off your chest, email Erik at:
editor@ theriverporter.uk

Dear Erik,

Whilst we slumber our street is remodelled. What will we find in the morning? A much smarter and more sociable avenue we hope, with places to sit and chat in the shade of trees and to watch the world go by. Thank you County Council. It's an important street in the town. Its upgrade is long overdue. **A resident**



Museum seeks volunteers

The Norris Museum, which tells the stories of Huntingdonshire from 160 million years ago to the present day is offering many volunteering opportunities. Just two of these are:

TOWN TOUR GUIDE: The museum offers a range of historical town tours to local groups, these are very popular and demand for them is growing. If you have an interest in local history, are a keen researcher, good communicator and enjoy meeting people the Norris Museum needs you!

TALK VOLUNTEER: The museum also offers a range of historical talks to local groups and demand for them is also growing. They are looking to expand their team of Talk Volunteers, who support the museum team in delivering existing, as well researching and delivering new talks about Huntingdonshire's History. Talks usually take place at the meeting place of the group that books them. These can be in any Huntingdonshire town.

Full details of theses posts are on the Museum website.

5th East Anglian Festival Network Show comes to town

The Burgess Hall will be the venue for the EAFN Show 2024 on 14th October. The conference and workshops include twelve excellent speakers at four sessions, covering Accessibility and Cultural Diversity, Sustainability, Technology and Working together to improve events. There's also plenty of entertainment lined up with music from EllY Tree, Soloman Smith, Evy Frearson and JUDVH.

Festival favourite returns!

In case you're missing him already, Festival poster boy Myke Clifford (he of Sax and flute fame) will show another side of his many musical talents by joining the **Soulcentred Sound team** for their sound bath at the Corn Exchange on October 6th.

Myke will bring native American flutes, the sacred Armenian duduk and some nifty breathwork to add to the nourishing soundscape improvised live by Sue and Jo.

For further info and to book a place see: **bookwhen.com/soulcentredsound**

Flooding again

Following the relatively dry and sunny week a fortnight ago, last weekend saw quite a lot of rain and flood alerts from Bedford to St Ives, making the river difficult to navigate. It also resulted in the Dolphin car park once again looking decidedly soggy and not a place to leave your car.



OTHER NEWS

Donation to St Ives Day Centre



On Thursday, 19th September, 4 members of the Old Bridge Lodge of the Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes donated the sum of £350 to the St Ives Day Centre.

The photograph shows our Worthy Primo, Bro Keith Eyre ROH presenting the cheque to Elaine Jacobs, a Senior Carer, who is the longest serving member of staff having been caring for the users for over 15 years. The Lodge regularly meets with 5 to 7 members and we think that was a great amount to donate. At our weekly meetings we have fun, friendship and fundraising to enable us to make donations like these. Any lapsed member or new member will be made most welcome should you wander down to the Ivy Leaf Club in St Ives on a Monday night. We meet at 7.30pm and you will be assured of a very warm welcome.

A heartwarming story

From the St Ives Dementia Friendly Community



Some men give their loved ones roses, some know better and show their love with chocolate, some buy fancy perfumes and jewellery . . . and there's Brian Adams, aged 90, who jumps out of an airplane in a tandem skydive this coming Sunday to demonstrate his love for Pauline to mark their 70th wedding anniversary, and to raise funds for the Alzheimer's Society for dementia research. The bar is set high now, gentlemen. To support Brian's extraordinary act of love and bravery go to his Just Giving page -My fundraiser for Alzheimer's Society. Best of luck on Sunday, Brian! We're all in awe.

British Heart Foundation Quiz

The long-standing and ever keenly supported Quiz of the St Ives & District Branch will again be held in St Ives Corn Exchange, on Thursday 24th October. Please phone Jean on 01480 469557 or Helen on 01480 496704 for an entry form, or pay on the night by cash or cheque.

Maximum 20 tables, 6 per table. £6 per person. The doors and bar will open at 7pm; the Quiz will start at 7.30pm. Please support the nation's heart charity. Together we can fund more research that helps save lives.

Local Crime Writer to appear at Library



St Ives Library is delighted to be welcoming Kate Rhodes (left), the acclaimed local crime writer, for a double bill of exciting sessions at our library. Join her on Thursday 17th October at 10:30am for an author talk where she will tell us all about life as a writer, inspiration and books. For those interested in honing their own craft, there will be a creative writing workshop with Kate Rhodes on Thursday 7th November, also at 10:30am. The events cost £5 / £6 respectively and places can be booked at St Ives Library or via email: stives.referral@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Comments on Facebook can be amusing



The picture (left) was posted with a request for someone to make the sky brighter for the loving couple.

A few people sent in their efforts but one from Jack (right) caused several comments, the best being from Wayne who suggested that the explosion was probably the result of a Tesla going into the car trap.



Join our fantastic team of volunteers here in Tookey's

We depend on our amazing volunteers to keep Tookey's going. If you think you may be interested in joining the team, please get in touch.



Call Pat 07876 354442 for more information



St Ives Age and Dementia Friendly Awareness Day

Together In Community

FRIDAY 18TH OCTOBER

FROM 10AM TO 2PM

Q & A

FREE Talks, Demonstrations & Information





Refreshments from Shirley's coffee shop

International Day of Older People

Find us at St Ives Corn Exchange, The Pavement, PE27 5AD

For any questions please contact Jane on 01480 388929 or email: stvescares@stivestowncouncil.gov.uk





THE COURTYARD, a hidden gem in the heart of St Ives.

An eclectic mix of traders and pods. Situated between St Ives Bus Station and Hyperion Auctions on Station Road.







Step into our unique courtyard, where vibrant traders and eclectic pods offer one-of-a-kind treasures. Explore a charming array of hand-crafted goods, rare finds, and artisanal delights – all from passionate vendors eager to share their stories.

Whether you're searching for distinctive gifts, unique home décor, or simply a delightful stroll, The Courtyard has something for everyone. You can also check out the collectibles in the Hyperion Antique Centre.

Whilst you are browsing enjoy a cup of freshly made coffee and a tasty bacon roll from Kate's Coffee Pod.

Open 7 days a week Monday to Saturday 9-5 and Sunday 10-4.

Here at The Courtyard, we feel incredibly proud of our work and supportive local community. Thank you so much to you all for your kind words and continued support.