PLEASE READ AND PASS ON

The Riverporter

COVERING THE NEWS FOR ST IVES AND AROUND

Issue 184: 16 May 2025

A TOTALLY INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER • UNCONNECTED WITH ANY GROUP OR ORGANISATION

Humour and emotion at Mayor Making



At Wednesday's Annual Mayor making ceremony, which selects the new Town Mayor, the outgoing Mayor, Pasco Hussain handed out prizes to worthy organisations and individuals that *'make St Ives such a great place'.* He also gave cheques to four organisations that he had raised money for over the past 12 months and in a humorous and emotional speech Pasco explained why being Mayor meant so much to him. As a ten-year old arriving from Pakistan, unable to speak English and with little education he never dreamt that he would become Mayor and best of all would end up in St Ives, a town he loves and happily calls home.



Julie Kerr was unanimously elected Mayor for 25/26 and Alex Thompson (see above) became Deputy Mayor. Cllr Lisa Valla will be Julie's consort. The awards given were: **Millennium Shield**: St Ives in Bloom, **Community Challenge Award**: Shirley Chapman, **Commerce in the Community Award**: Ikigai, **Hidden Gem of St Ives Award**: Hill Rise Allotment Association, **Care in the Community Award**: Agi Peach, **Volunteer of the Year Award**: Ed Goodman, **Heart of St Ives Award**: John Souter (right being presented by Pasco) and **Sports Club of the Year**: Icons Netball Club. Cheques for £3,660 were presented to each of the following charities: Acorn Cancer Support Group, St Ives Daycare Centre, The Bridge Debt Advice Centre and The Royal British Legion.

Warm weather is most welcome

Since our last issue St Ives has elected two new County Councillors, which slightly bucked the trend in other parts of the country, where Reform made significant gains. St Ives South and Needingworth Ward was won by Labour's Aex Bulat and St Ives North & Wyton was won by Independent, Julie Kerr.

Cambridgeshire County Council saw the Liberal Democrats win overall control of the 61 Council seats with Lib Dems 31, Conservatives 10, Reform 10, Labour 5, Greens 3 and Independents 2.

Meanwhile Paul Bristow was elected as the new Mayor of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority with 28.4% of the vote. Turnout across the region was only 33.1%, which means that only 9% of potential electors chose their Mayor.

Mayor Paul Bristow said: *'I have been given a big mandate by local people. Now it's time to get Cambridgeshire and Peterborough moving.'*

We're not sure 28% is a big mandate and it is interesting to speculate what the result would have been had the previous Supplementary Vote (SV) system not been changed to 'First Past the Post' by the Tories.

With Reform taking second place on 23% of the votes and Labour and Lib Dems on 20% and 19% respectively, the winner could have been any one of them under SV and that winner would have had the support of the majority of the voters, and dare we say it? A proper mandate.





Above: *Julie Kerr and Alex Bulat, our new County Councillors, who will be happy to let you know what the Council is doing for St Ives.*

The Mayor chairs a Combined Authority Board which includes representatives of the region's seven constituent councils plus the Chair of the region's Business Board, the Police and Crime Commissioner, the Chair of the Fire Authority, and the Chair of the NHS Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Integrated Care Board.

With a £328m capital programme and a £333m revenue budget over the Mayoral term its priorities include transport, skills, business support and growth.

The Mayor is set to chair the first meeting on June 4, and with many of the members representing the other parties, we might see if this coalition of politicians will result in a less combative approach and better decisions.

Meanwhile our local candidates spent hours canvassing in warm weather and fortunately that warm spell continued as several of them took a deserved break afterwards.

The results were:

St Ives North & Wyton

Julie KERR, Independent **749**
Keith BROWN, Liberal Democrats 213
Martin GILL, Conservatives 509
Thomas HOEKSMA, Greens 143
Sajjad KHAN, Labour 358
Noah SANDERSON, Reform UK 658

St Ives South & Needingworth

Alex BULAT, Labour and Co-op **676**
Kevin REYNOLDS, Independent 342
Christopher SMITH, Greens 168
Craig SMITH, Conservatives 585
Mark TURLEY, Reform UK 562
Nic WELLS, Liberal Democrat 588.

DIARY OF EVENTS

Please email: editor@theriverporter.uk

MAY 2025

Saturday 17th - **Community Information Day** St Ives Corn Exchange from 10am to 1pm. Your chance to find out about local community groups.

Tuesday 20th - **St Ives Rotary Club AGM** open for prospective members. 6pm St Ives Golf Club. Email membership@stivesrotarycambs.org.uk

Tuesday 27th - **St Ives Rotary Club social evening** with a guest speaker for prospective members to attend. 6pm at St Ives Golf Club.

Friday 30th - **Karen Hubbard String Quartet** An evening of music from the past 600 years! The Bridge Chapel. A free event but tickets must be booked from **www.ticketsource.co.uk/eventsstives.**

JUNE

Wednesday 4th - **Engage Talk: Huntingdon Gym Club** - 2pm, St Ives Library. A talk by club manager Adam Scott about our local world class community club.

Sunday 8th - **Dickie de Vere & The Dorchester Mavericks** - a FREE Town Team concert at The Bandstand 2pm. Part of the Big Green Week.

Wednesday 11th - **Water: Making better use in our homes** - 2.30pm, St Ives Library. A talk about how we can use water better presented by Urban and Civic Development.

Saturday 14th - **The Quo Experience** St Ives Corn Exchange 8pm. Tickets - www.ticketsource.co.uk/cexevents or from venue.

Saturday 22nd - **Picnic in The Park.** Warners Park from noon. **FREE**

Friday 27th - **Chapel Arts concert with Lexie Green and Johnny 'Magic Boy' Wright** - Play Americana. St Ives Corn Exchange 7.30pm. Tickets £10 from the Bar or www.ticketsource.co.uk/cexevents.

JULY

Every Sunday in July and August - **Music on The Waits** - 2.30pm.

Friday 11th - **Four Winds Sax Quartet** Music from the past 6 centuries. Two performances at 7pm and 8.30pm, The Bridge Chapel. A free event but tickets must be booked from **www.ticketsource.co.uk/eventsstives**.

Saturday 12th/Sunday 13th - **Carnival and Music Festival -** Hill Rise.

Saturday 26th/Sunday 27th - **600 Anniversary Celebrations** - The English Civil War re-enactment and Ceilidh see page 2.

Community Day Talk Timetable

Tomorrow, Saturday 17th May, in St Ives Corn Exchange you can hear talks about the work done by the following St Ives groups. Here is the timetable . . .

Time	Talk
10.15am	St Ives Youth Theatre
10.30am	St Ives Dementia Friendly Community Group - start of Dementia Action Week
10.45am	Field Lodge
11.00am	Visiting Angels - Cambridgeshire
11.15am	CAMMs Meals on Wheels
11.30am	Introduction to AutiStic Ives!
11.45am	Bobby Scheme
12 noon	FESt
12.15pm	Friends of Holt Island
12.30pm	HDC Resident Advice Team
12.45pm	Barclays

 © copyright reserved

Old Riverport Jazz & Blues Festival

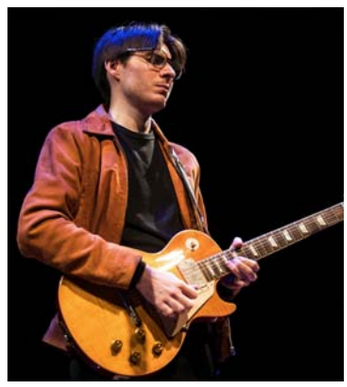
Last Saturday the first of two fundraising concerts took place at St Ives Corn Exchange. The phenomenal Toby Lee, supported by Isabella Coulstock, delighted a full audience.



It was quite a family affair as both Toby and Isabella's fathers were in attendance.

Terry Lee told us that Toby and Isabella are *'an item'* and Isabella has now joined Toby on his busy tour around the country. The next morning saw an early start in order to get to Exeter. Pictured (L to R) Terry Lee, Toby Lee, Isabella Coulstock and Mark Coulstock.

This was a great start and the funds raised will go to pay for some of the bands playing at this year's Festival in September. Our next Fundraiser features the Quo Experience on Saturday 14th June, also in the Corn Exchange. This will be a fun event featuring Status Quo's infectious music - they had over 60 chart hits in the UK, more than any other band. That's not all folks as our famous T-shirts and double CD, featuring tracks from bands playing the festival, will also be available. For tickets go to **www.ticketsource.co.uk/cexevents** or buy in person from the Corn Exchange.



Festival improves every year

Over the past ten years the Festival has been running, the range and quality of bands has always improved, and this year is no exception with 28 concerts featuring performers with international reputations. Some of the very best musicians around. Just one example is Connor Selby (right), who has just won the prestigious UK Blues Award for the Best Traditional Blues Artist 2025. He returns to St Ives, having played a fund raiser last year and this time you can see him for free on Friday 12th September at 10pm in the Corn Exchange.

VE Day 80 years on in St Ives

A week last Thursday, St Ives Town Council organised a day of celebrations to mark 80 years of peace since the second World War ended at one minute past 11pm on 8th May 1945. This included a service at the war memorial, where the Mayor, Cllr Pasco Hussain and Deputy Mayor, Cllr Julie Kerr were in attendance. *Picture by Callum Dickerson.*



Comment on development sites

You have just three weeks left to comment on 'additional potential development sites' in the area. Each site has been assessed for it's suitability and now HDC want to hear your views.

You can tell them if you agree or disagree and help shape the future of the District.

Your feedback, along with housing and job needs, their growth strategy and supporting evidence, will help decide which sites go forward in the new Local Plan.

This is an opportunity to get involved, one you shouldn't miss if you are concerned about the impact of more housing in the area.

To respond to the consultancy go to: consult.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/kse/event/38343 or email: local.plan@huntingdonshire.gov.uk



FEN DRAYTON BOWLS CLUB

Have you ever considered having a go at Lawn Bowls?

With Spring well and truly here we are turning our attention to the outdoor season. Practice sessions are held on Tuesday evenings from 6 pm between late April and late August. We are entered in the Cambridge and District Bowls League and matches are usually played on weekday evenings.

If you would like to give it a go, please come along to our **Open Evening at the Fen Drayton Bowling Green on Tuesday 20th May.**

Equipment and instruction will be provided. Please wear flat shoes. If you are unable to make 20th May, then join us any Tuesday evening. We are a small friendly club and welcome new members, age is no barrier.

The Fen Drayton Village Hall is located on Cootes Lane, CB24 4SL and the bowling green is at the rear of the hall.

Should you wish for more information, please contact our Club Secretary, **Stephen George on 07876 407 219**
Email stephengeorge79@gmail.com

THE 600 ANNIVERSARY

Programme of Events

DATE	EVENT	PLACE
30 May	Karen Hubbard String Quartet - music from past 600 years *A Free event, please book on-line @ www.ticketsource.co.uk/eventsstives*	The Chapel
2 July	Talk by Grahame Middleton - Cambridgeshire during the Civil War	St Ives Library
11 July	Four Winds Saxophone Quartet - music from past 600 years *A Free event, please book on-line @ www.ticketsource.co.uk/eventsstives*	The Chapel
20 July	**Toll Games Day** - a series of games from the past 600 years for people crossing the bridge to take part in.	The Bridge
26 July	Ceilidh 7pm. Tickets £5 from **www.ticketsource.co.uk/cexevents**	Corn Exchange



Saturday 26th and Sunday 27th July

- **See St Ives' famous Bridge being blown up**
- **Witness what life was like in the 1600's**
- **Watch a battle between Royalist and Parliamentary forces**
- **Experience the sights, sounds and smells of the English Civil War**

Saturday 26th July St Ives Town Centre from 11am to 1pm
Hill Rise Park from 2pm Saturday and all day Sunday

For more details go to: **www.stivescambridgeshire.co.uk**





Flea on the Quay

The Town Team, organisers of the Flea on The Quay, were pleased with the first one, where there were 9 stalls and a coffee van. They were also amused by the picture (left), posted by David Id online. Stallholders enjoyed the morning as a steady stream of shoppers came to browse and it is expected that the number of stalls will increase, making it an even better experience.

Two requests from the Civic Society

Help us to walk St Ives Public Rights of Way this summer

We want to know if they are still walkable? There are 20+ historic pathways from St Ives offering beautiful settings to walkers, ramblers, photographers and picnickers and those looking for a peaceful spot to reflect.

Register for a Rights of Way pack so we can include your records and photos.

(NB: Do you know of the Via Beata whose destination is St David's Head in Wales?!)

Enquiries contact: Chair@stivescivic.org. www.stivescivic.org.uk

St Ives Civic Society is supporting Green Week 7th to 15th June 2025.

THE THICKET NEEDS OUR HELP!

YEARS OF BENIGN NEGLECT HAS LEFT THIS MUCH-LOVED WOODLAND IN NEED OF TLC. BECOME A 'FRIEND OF THE THICKET PATH' and HELP US FUNDRAISE FOR IT, WEED & PLANT IT TO ENSURE IT HAS A HEALTHY FUTURE. Contact: Chair@stivescivic.org.uk

THE GREAT BIG GREEN WEEK

ST IVES GREEN WEEK

7th to 15th June 2025

DATE and Time	EVENT	DETAILS and CONTACT to enquire/book
SAT 7th June 9am to 2pm	**EVENTS on MARKET HILL, PE27 5AH:** The Mayor will launch **ST IVES GREEN WEEK** at **ST IVES GREEN FARMERS MARKET** PLUS, **ST IVES ECO CAFÉ** at the FREE CHURCH PE27 5AL, including a SWAP RAIL PLUS, **ST IVES AGAINST RUBBISH** (StAR), with the 'No Butts' campaign and a LITTER PICK PLUS, **WASTE MINIMISATION TEAM** from the HDC at the eco café	No need to book: Come along for a cuppa and a cake and find out about local environmental charities and community groups. Then visit the LIBRARY or join the LITTER PICK (bring gloves). Meet by Oliver Cromwell statue - rubbish bags and litter picking tools provided. *star.stivesecoaction@gmail.com*
SAT 7th June 9.30am to 4pm 10am to 12pm 1pm to 3pm	**EVENTS in the LIBRARY, PE27 5BW:** The Library is creating an **INTERACTIVE DISPLAY** to celebrate all the community is doing to help create a greener, more eco-friendly place to live. PLUS, **SHEPRETH WILDLIFE PARK:** Learn about hedgehog conservation and enjoy a hedgehog craft (children) PLUS, **GREEN ART CLUB** (for adults)	MAKE A PLEDGE: pop into the LIBRARY any time to tell us your green plans, or email: *Sarah.Sheldon@cambridgeshire.gov.uk* Please book at the LIBRARY or email: *stives.referral@cambridgeshire,gov.uk* Donations welcome.
SAT 7th June 10am to 3pm	**EVENT AT HILL RISE PARK, PE27 6SP:** **HILL RISE PARK BIOBLITZ:** A Citizen Science project run with your help by the Huntingdonshire District Council ecologists. Bring your phone and learn how to use the INaturalist app.	No need to book: Find the team at the Hill Rise Car Park any time from 10am, to hear about the HDC biodiversity project and go on a GREEN tour of the park.
SAT 7th SUN 8th	**HOLT ISLAND NATURE RESERVE, PE27 5BY**, will be OPEN ALL WEEKEND from 10am to 4pm.	No need to book, go past the Parish Church to the White Bridge and cross to the Island.
SUN 8th June 6am to 8am	**From THE QUAY, PE27 5AR:** **EARLY BIRD TRIP** with **ST IVES ELECTRIC RIVERBOAT:** Meander up the river listening for as many different bird species as we can find, guided by our on-board expert.	Book through the website: *https://www.electricriverboat.co.uk* or ring on: 07906 257308 (£19 pp)
SUN 8th June 10am to 12 2pm to 4pm	**EVENTS on the WAITS, PE27 5BX:** **ST IVES in BLOOM:** Gardening at the flowerbed on the corner with Ramsey Road. **ST IVES TOWN TEAM CONCERT at the BANDSTAND:** ***The wonderful Dickie de Vere & The Dorchester Mavericks*** A FREE EVENT!!	No need to book, just bring gardening gloves and a trowel or fork! *siibinfo@gmail.com* ALL WELCOME, just turn up by the Norris Museum: *townteam@stivescambridgeshire.co.uk*
SUN 8th June Meet at 10am by the information building at the St Ives Park & Ride. Finish time: 2.30pm to 3pm	**ST IVES GREEN WEEK OUSE VALLEY RAMBLE**, a 9.2m walk provided by **HUNTINGDONSHIRE RAMBLERS:** 'Our circular route will take us down river along the Ouse Valley Way, through Holywell to Brownshill Staunch, and then back on the other side of the river and through the Fen Drayton Lakes Nature Reserve. Please bring refreshments for a picnic lunch.' From the PARK AND RIDE, PE27 4LG, at 10am. St Ives Park & Ride, Meadow Lane; Free parking. OS Ref: TL320 708	Please wear appropriate footwear and clothing for a long country walk. Further information and advice on the website: *https://huntsramblers.org.uk* ALL WELCOME, under 18s to be accompanied by a responsible adult. Walk Leader : Juris 01480 413657/07770 650094
SUN 8th 12pm to 3pm	**EVENT AT THE ALLOTMENTS, PE27 6NZ:** Hill Rise Allotments Association is holding its Summer Social: a Barbecue, a plant and book stall, a Teddy Bears' picnic and a stall 'All about Bees'.	No need to book. All allotment holders welcome to come along.
SUN 8th June Meet at 7pm at the entrance OS Ref: TL293 717	**EVENT at HOUGHTON MEADOWS:** OS Ref: TL293 717 **ST IVES GREEN WEEK GUIDED EVENING WALK** round the Meadows, provided by the **WILDLIFE TRUST** for Beds, Cambs & Northants: 'Come and explore the flora and fauna of these five ancient meadows (a Site of Special Scientific Interest) with an expert guide.' On the Thicket Path I mile W. from St Ives or ½ mile E. from Houghton.	Further information on website: *https://www.wildlifebcn.org/nature-reserves/houghton-meadows* No need to book. Not wheelchair or pushchair friendly, under 18s to be accompanied by a responsible adult.
MON 9th 9am to 2pm	**EVENTS on MARKET HILL, PE27 5AH:** **HDC WASTE MINIMISATION TEAM** are running a stall at the Monday Market.	No need to book – just come and talk rubbish with the Team!
MON 9th to FRI 13th June	**ST IVES SCHOOLS' EVENTS:** All the schools will be taking part in a variety of activities learning about the value of nature and the environment. They will be taking part in School **LITTER PICKS, RECYCLING** and a **NATURE COMPETITION** run by **ST IVES ROTARY CLUB.**	
MON 9th to FRI 13th	**HOLT ISLAND NATURE RESERVE, PE27 5BY,** OPEN ALL WEEK, from 10am to 4pm each day.	No need to book, go past the Parish Church to the White Bridge and cross to the Island.
TUE 10th June 9am to 5pm 10 to 11am 2pm to 3pm	**THREE EVENTS in the LIBRARY, PE27 5BW:** **CARBON LITERACY TRAINING** - Join us to discover what actions you can take to help make a difference in your community or organisation. **CHILDREN'S NATURE STORYTIME** **READ A LITTLE ALOUD:** Adults' green-themed storytime	BOOK FOR FREE! For further details and to book a place email: *hannah.smith@groundwork.org.uk* No need to book for storytimes: just come along and enjoy.

DATE and Time	EVENT	DETAILS and CONTACT to enquire/book
WED 11th June **10am to 2pm**	**EVENT at the FREE CHURCH, PE27 5AL:** **INDOOR TABLE TOP SALE:** For people to sell anything: ideally, with a GREEN theme such as locally made, fairtrade, pre-loved, upcycled, recycled, organic. There will be a tombola. **CANCELLED**	Book a table: Prices for tables are £10 each. Contact: *office@stivesfreechurch.org* Tookeys café will be open for meals & refreshments.
WED 11th June **All Co-op events running right from 11am to 4pm** **11am to 1pm**	**BURLEIGH HILL COMMUNITY CENTRE with THE ST IVES CENTRAL CO-OP** **Constable Road, St Ives, PE27 3ER.** **COMMUNITY DAY** **BRUCIE'S BIKES** – free bike health checks and minor repairs PLUS, **BIKE MARKING** by local Police Sergeant Andy Caruana PLUS, **CO-OP SUSTAINABLE FOOD DISPLAY** (with a fairtrade focus) PLUS, **COOP FLORISTS' DISPLAY** PLUS, **SWAP FOOD** (for Food Bank) for a **BOOK** PLUS, **ST IVES AGAINST RUBBISH** (StAR) will be running a **LITTER PICK**, meet at 11am	COME ALONG AND SEE WHAT IS GOING ON AT BURLEIGH HILL TODAY! No need to book for the Coop events – ALL FREE!! (Then go into the COMMUNITY CENTRE for the drop in café or Sew, Mend and Save.) *stivescares@stivestowncouncil.gov.uk* *star.stivesecoaction@gmail.com* Bring gloves and suitable clothing for a walk; bags and litter picking tools will be provided.
WED 11th **11am to 4pm** **11am to 12.30pm, 1pm-2pm** **1pm to 3pm (Talk 1.15)** **2pm to 4pm**	**INSIDE BURLEIGH HILL COMMUNITY CENTRE, PE27 3ER:** **DROP-IN CAFE** with ST IVES CARES PLUS, **ST IVES in BLOOM:** Join our gardening work parties to green up the Community Centre – the Coop has donated some NEW PLANTERS! PLUS, **THE TREFOIL GUILD** with HDC in discussions about recycling. All welcome PLUS, **SEW, MEND and SAVE:** Bring in any clothes that need mending, or help the expert repairers on their project to revitalise old clothes: "Don't throw it out. Mend it with us over a cuppa!"	Come and meet St Ives Cares, *stivescares@stivestowncouncil.gov.uk* and find out about local community activities. Bring a few gardening tools to come and help prepare the planters donated by the Coop *siibinfo@gmail.com* No need to book: just come along. (Sew, Mend and Save takes place at the Community Centre on the second Wednesday of every month.)
WED 11th **2.30pm to 3.30pm**	**ENGAGE EVENT at the LIBRARY, PE27 5BW:** A talk on how and why we need to use water better in our homes, by Natalie Leigh Brown, Urban Civic	Book to reserve a free place, at the LIBRARY or email: *stives.referral@cambridgeshire,gov.uk*
WED 11th **Meet 6.20pm for 6.30pm start outside One Leisure, Westwood Rd, St Ives, PE27 6WU. Free parking. Estimated finish time: 9-9.30pm**	**From ONE LEISURE, PE27 6WU:** A second **ST IVES GREEN WEEK OUSE VALLEY RAMBLE,** a 5.5m circular walk past the Hemingford villages with **HUNTINGDONSHIRE RAMBLERS:** "We will walk along the Thicket Path to Houghton, crossing the river and returning through the lush water meadows. This route is always a delight on a mid-summer evening, and we will also have local geographer Keith Grimwade with us to give us some insight about points of interest we may otherwise walk past." (We do aim to finish the walk in daylight, but having a torch with you may be a good idea.)	Please wear appropriate footwear, bring water and dress appropriately for the weather conditions. Further information and advice on website: *https://huntsramblers.org.uk* ALL WELCOME, under 18s to be accompanied by a responsible adult, only assistance dogs allowed
WED 11th June **6.30pm to 8.15pm**	**From THE QUAY, PE27 5AR:** **EVENING MINDFULNESS EVENT** with **ST IVES ELECTRIC RIVERBOAT:** An evening of relaxing contemplation - experience the calming effect of the evening as we head up our beautiful river.	*info@electricriverboat.co.uk* Book through the website https://www.electricriverboat.co.uk or ring on 07906 257308 (£12.50 per person)
THURS 12th June **7pm - 9pm**	**At the CORN EXCHANGE, PE27 5AD:** **ST IVES ROTARY CLUB/GREEN WEEK TEAM:** Where do we go from here? Join us for a celebration of what we have been able to achieve, and a discussion about what we could do next to improve our local environment.	All participants in St Ives Green Week are invited – light refreshments will be available. To book a free place email Hattie (St Ives in Bloom) at: *siibinfo@gmail.com*
FRI 13th 11am-12.15pm, 2pm-3.15pm **SAT 14th** **11am-12.15pm**	**HOLT ISLAND NATURE RESERVE, PE27 5BY:** **FREE GUIDED WALKS**, provided by Friends of Holt Island Nature Reserve, to learn about the history, fauna and flora of this rare wet woodland nature reserve. Meet on the White Bridge at 11am or 2pm on Friday, or 11am on Saturday.	Booking is essential because places are limited. To book a FREE place email: *chair@holtisland.org*
SAT 14th June **1pm – 4pm** **2pm – 3.30pm**	**EVENTS on THE WAITS:** **ST IVES REPAIR CAFÉ** at the **METHODIST CHURCH** on The Waits, PE27 5BY: Bring in items that need mending and a volunteer repairer will help you to fix it. Or pop in for tea, coffee and a selection of delicious homemade cakes to see the REPAIR CAFÉ in action. At the **NORRIS MUSEUM, PE27 5BX: FAMILY ART CLUB: SEEING IN GREEN:** Capture the beautiful views from the museum's Community Room in a variety of different mediums, using only different shades of green, blue, and yellow.	To be sure of a repair slot it is best to pre-book your item: *stivesrepaircafe@gmail.com* No need to book for the café! Details of tickets and prices on the Norris Museum website, limited places: *https://the-norris-museum.arttickets. org.uk/* (All proceeds from this session will be donated to The 2 Minute Foundation: https://2minute.org/)
SAT 14th 4.45pm to 5.30pm	**At the LIBRARY, PE27 5BW:** EVENT as part of 'THE LIBRARY PRESENTS': Cecily and Salty's Monster Seashore Shake-up! (children's event, 0- 7 yrs)	To book visit: Cecily & Salty's Monster Seashore Shake-up! (Music) - Library.Live. Pay what you can.
SAT 14th - SUN 15th	**HOLT ISLAND NATURE RESERVE PE27 5BY,** OPEN ALL WEEKEND from 10am to 4pm.	No need to book, cross the White Bridge to the Island.
SUN 15th. Meet 2.15pm outside the Free Church, return time about 5pm	From the **FREE CHURCH**, Market Hill, PE27 5AL: **ST IVES ECO FAITH GROUP PILGRIMAGE WALK:** 'Join us on a Sunday afternoon pilgrimage walk to the beautiful village of Holywell, ending at the well and Parish Church, where the parishioners will be waiting for us with cake and a cuppa. Sit peacefully awhile - head home when you are ready.'	Book to reserve a place for tea, provided by Holywell Parish Church: *stivesecocafe@gmail.com* ALL WELCOME! Let us know if you feel you may need a lift back to St Ives.

OTHER ACTIVITIES:

- All the Schools in St Ives are working on their own Green Projects for the week.
- The Methodist Church is running an Eco-quiz, and the Free Church is decorating itself green.
- The St Ives Women's Institute have been re-cycling items at all their meetings.
- The Civic Society is appealing for St Ives residents to walk the local public rights of way and report on their condition, sending photos and comments to go on the Civic Society website.

Would you like to add an activity to help ST IVES GO GREEN?

MAKE YOUR PLEDGE to be ADDED TO THE TOWN TREE in the LIBRARY:

Pop into the Library any time, or email: *Sarah.Sheldon@cambridgeshire.gov.uk*

JOIN US AT

ST IVES CARNIVAL & MUSIC FESTIVAL 2025

ST IVES Carnival & MUSIC FESTIVAL

SATURDAY 12TH JULY

FAMILY FUN, LIVE ENTERTAINMENT, MOVIE, THE JERSEY QUARTET & PROMS IN THE PARK

SUNDAY 13TH JULY

MUSIC FESTIVAL

FREE ENTRY

HILL RISE PARK
FROM 12PM
EACH DAY

FAIRGROUND RIDES





LIVE MUSIC





BAR & COCKTAILS



MARKET STALLS

FOOD STALLS





FAMILY FILM

WWW.STIVESCARNIVALANDMUSICFESTIVAL.CO.UK

The Riverporter



Milly and Tilly like your letters.

having your say ...

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

To listen to the latest **Riverport Radio Podcast** go to **https://riverportradiopodcast.buzzsprout.com**

PLEASE NOTE: Letters are reproduced as presented by the writer. Editing is confined to grammatical corrections or minor trimming to fit the space. *The Riverporter* neither condones or condemns the opinions expressed.

Dear Milly and Tilly,

Regarding the Hub 'QR CODE WIFI' large black information box on The Waits.



Yes, the public need information to promote our town but as a member of Festival Events St Ives, and as a local resident, I wish to say how unhappy I am to see this large black box on our beautiful Waits.

I feel that it distracts from the vista of The Waits and also of the Bandstand, and it is in the way of audiences for concerts at the Bandstand.

I am chair of the volunteer group FESt who organise free, very popular, concerts every Sunday afternoon in July and August at the bandstand, and yet we were not consulted.

I am very disappointed.

Also, I think the design is better suited to a modern inner city plaza than an historic market town like ours. The Town Team went to a lot of thought to choose the ideal design and position for the bandstand and now its presence has been compromised.

In my opinion, it's totally in the wrong place on The Waits. Near the museum wall would have been better. I do hope this black monolith-like structure can be moved, and of course that it still proves to be useful!

Who will be responsible I wonder for promoting its use through organisations and businesses, and then keeping it up to date? And will its screens be able to be viewed in bright sunlight? **Gilly Jackson**



Now there's another one on the Sheepmarket.

Dear Milly & Tilly,

VE Day Disgrace

It would seem that 80 years was not long enough for the Town Council to organise the correct procedure for lighting a beacon on the Parish Church roof to celebrate VE Day.

Instead they have taken the easy way out and hid behind Health & Safety.

Good job that didn't happen in 1939.

A resident, also 80 this year!

Dear Milly & Tilly,

I read about the redevelopment of the Fire Station and Clinic Sites which are, at present, underused.

My worries are about the Elm Trees behind the Fire Station and the remaining Walnut Tree in the Bible Orchard.

What will become of them? Can they be integrated with any future building?

If the Walnut tree has to go, then perhaps the original Bible Orchard could be re-instated with Apple Trees as its name suggests!

I know that even Lady Dogs are not averse to a good tree-sniff sometimes.

Steve Puttick

Dear Milly & Tilly,

WHO ARE THESE TARDY THINKERS ?

Have we gone back to Slepe?
Taking the rising Sun
out of celebratory VE,
by erecting this monstrosity.

Are the Players now on Waits,
Practicing again their middle C,
while Milligan checks his shoes and socks.

URL with tattooed nails and Turkish locks
on phone, mobile, now convention!
Tis time to think Outside that Box

Philip Noble

Dear Milly & Tilly,

I just want to extend my sincere gratitude and appreciation to all those wonderful people serving on St Ives Town council, and all your Members and Volunteers keeping St Ives so beautifully clean.

I cannot be a prouder resident and I for one know how much effort and hard work it takes to keep a town so clean and tidy (and do a litter pick every day on our lane where we live outside St Ives).

As a family we regularly visit St Ives and every time we are so impressed by how clean it is, whenever we have friends over for a visit we are too keen to take them to our beautiful historic town.

They always comment on how clean and litter free it is, we know it is down to all the hard work you guys do on the ground.

A big thank you and long may this continue.

A very proud St Ives Resident

Jacob

OTHER NEWS

So how does your garden grow?

Wildly - at least in parts - agreed those attending May's Eco-Café.

Re-wilding parts of our garden, window-box or old ceramic sink can all make a difference to the insects, birds, mammals and amphibians you will see, especially if you fit a camera to record their comings and goings.

Discussions ranged from composting, dig or no dig, ramp exits for mammals to escape from ponds, holes in fences for hedgehogs to move about (the size of a CD case), to where to learn to make willow-hedging. Some of the group had visited a re-wilded garden in St Ives and were enthused at the many different actions they, too, could take. Of course, you could do this on an allotment, too - with the bonus of people to chat to, swap seeds and plants and generally socialise. It's all good for the soul [and the soil?].

Why don't you meet us at the Free Church Saturday 7 June for our Clothes Swap Rail, 10 am to noon, or ask to join our mailing list: stivesecocafe@gmail.com?

Important town centre premises sold



The buildings which comprise Coral's Bookmakers, Hyperion Auction Rooms and The Courtyard has recentley changed hands. For many years Ekins, Dilley and Handley ran auctions from there and last month their representatives sold the site to Rod Best of Hyperion. Rod was understandably delighted to close the deal, which will ensure that the Auction Rooms and The Courtyard will be able to continue to trade. Interest came from developers, keen to knock it down and rebuild shops and flats, which could have prevented Hyperion from continuing and St Ives losing another successful business. Riverport Radio will be interviewing Rod for our next podcast, so go to ***https://riverportradiopodcast.buzzsprout.com*** to hear his news.

Church Hall to 4 bed home approved



HDC has approved plans for the former School and Church Hall on Ramsey Road to be converted into a large family house with two parking spaces. Proceeds from the sale of the premises will be used by the Parochial Church Council to improve the facilities in the Parish Church.

It's been a while but here we go again



Last week saw another car succumb to the car trap. For once there had been a pause in the almost weekly event but the inevitable was bound to happen again. *The Riverporter* wonders if our two new County Councillors might be able to find a solution to this thorny old problem? *Picture by Vasil Hristov.*

Dear Milly & Tilly,

I have noticed recently very few letters arriving through my door, not always a bad thing as it's usually junk or bills. But returning from just a few days away I came through the door to find a huge pile of letters and some of it appeared very old with out of date offers and appointment letters too late to attend.

I later noticed on social media several others complaining on the recent erratic post service followed by some amusing comments by fellow St Ivians.

Is this what we have to look forward to now? No banks, and no post. A very worried **Jeffery**





Discover what St Ives has to offer

ST IVES COMMUNITY INFORMATION DAY

Saturday 17th May 2025

10am to 1pm

at St Ives Corn Exchange and Free Church

Explore local stalls, meet community groups and find out about activities and support for all residents.

Everyone welcome.

40+ Organisations Represented

If you have questions, please contact Jane on stivescares@stivestowncouncil.gov.uk or 01480 388929

Why pay eye-watering prices for eyewear?

EyeSpecs

a personalised approach to eyewear



BIG SAVINGS GUARANTEED

- No pressure, no rush
- 1:1 personalised service
- Relaxed dispensing suite
- Ophthalmic experts for 40 years

BOSS · Ralph Lauren · Michael Kors · vogue eyewear · MOREL · OAKLEY · Tommy Hilfiger

Call or email us today! 01480 499606 - info@eyespecsuk.com
OR scan the QR code to vist our website

www.eyespecsuk.com

25 Edison Road
St. Ives
Cambs
PE27 3LF

Open Monday to Friday 9-5
Saturday 9-1 (by appointment)
PARKING AVAILABLE

Hyperion Auctions

Fine Art and Design sale - Saturday 17th May



Platinum Ladies 2.7ct Diamond Princess Cut Solitaire ring
Est: £8000-£12000



Rolex Oyster Perpetual Date just Stainless steel Automatic wristwatch movement 1603
Est: £3000-£4000



Jacobean style Victorian pair of Oak carved Throne Chairs with Lions head handles
Est: £200-£300



Louis Vuitton Paris Monogram Garment Carrier Case with brass fittings
Est: £300-£500



Good Collection of Wartime 1940s and 50s and other Football programmes
Est: £1200-£1500



Scottish Red Deer (Cervus elaphus scoticus) undated mounted on Oak Shield
Est: £200-£400

Fine Art & Design Sale to include Ceramics, Whisky, Sporting Goods, Jewellery, Watches, Pictures, Mid Century & Antique Furniture

How does this Fine Art auction differ from our Interiors auctions?

Fine art refers to creative works produced primarily for their aesthetic value and intellectual stimulation, rather than for practical or functional purposes. It encompasses a wide range of art forms that are considered to have high artistic value and are often regarded as the highest form of artistic expression. Fine art is typically created to evoke emotions, provoke thought, or reflect cultural, philosophical, or social ideas.

Join us at our saleroom in Hyperion at 10am

The Salerooms, Station Road, St Ives, Cambs, PE27 5BH