

The Riverporter

SPECIAL COLOUR EDITION FOR THE CORONATION

COVERING THE NEWS FOR ST IVES AND AROUND

Issue I34: I2 May 2023

A TOTALLY INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER • UNCONNECTED WITH ANY GROUP OR ORGANISATION

A day of sunshine, opera and fun at the Big Picnic

Sunday 7th May 2023 will go down in St Ives history as a day to remember, when the town's people celebrated together.

Following on from the long tradition the town has for marking significant events, last Sunday's picnic party in the town centre was probably one of the best.

Inspired by the pictures of people celebrating together at the St Ives Coronation Tea for George V in 1911, the organisers, St Ives Town Team, FESt and the Town Council, decided to hold a Big Picnic in Market Hill.

In 1911 the population of St Ives was a mere 3,015 and the 400+ people who attended represented about 14% of the town's people. Last Sunday's crowd was just under 3% of the current population but the Edwardians never had TV, the internet and other distractions to contend with.

Mayor Phil Pope in full Mayor regalia accompanied by the Macebearer, Phil Ganny spent the day meeting and greeting the revellers in glorious sunshine. As well as a BBQ and ice cream stall there was a range of activities for children, including

crown making, tattoos, splat the rat, a human fruit machine and hobby horse races.

Star Crafters, who were responsible for the fabulous Yarn Bombing, also had a stall. The giant crown, made by Tracey and Steven Wadsworth, provided a magnificent centre piece

in front of Oliver Cromwell's statue. With over 12,000 likes on-line it made national news.

The limited edition Coronation Mugs were also on sale. If you were unable to buy one on the day there are a few left and they can be obtained from the Town Hall for £8 each.



PICTURES FROM A JOYOUS WEEKEND
Clockwise from left. Mayor Pope takes a selfie with 499 friends. Karen England singing on the Town Hall balcony. The Giant Crown and the Mayor with Mace Bearer Phil Ganny.

Photo Media Imaging Solutions.

Read on-line at www.theriverporter.uk or see our Facebook page. Email: editor@theriverporter.uk

You can contact The Riverporter by telephone on: 07900 112635. The publishers, Ron Westrip and John Souter, reserve the right to determine the content of the publication. © copyright reserved

Mayor welcomes Deputy at annual Mayor Making



Tradition was maintained at the St Ives Town Council's annual Mayor making event despite it being the first of its kind in 35 years as Councillor Phil Pope was elected Mayor for a second year in a row.

Usually the outgoing Mayor is 'undressed' by his Macebearer before the new Mayor dons the robes, however Phil Pope remained fully clothed last Wednesday as fellow councillors unanimously re-elected him as their Mayor for 2023/24.

A full Corn Exchange heard how proud Cllr Pope was to have been Mayor of his beloved St Ives. He praised the town's people for their support and generous efforts which raised over £12,000 for his charities. In a year 'like no other' he said it was an unbelievable honour to represent St Ives at the Queen's lying in state and to be able to proclaim a new King, the first to do this in 70 years. He also mentioned the recent Jubilee celebrations and last Sunday's Big Picnic party, which he said was 'the most amazing, patriotic, community spirited party afternoon, full of smiles, laughter and some great entertainment.'

Mayor Pope reported that he had visited every Primary school and given each pupil a Coronation Mug, which he said...

'They can treasure for a lifetime, or flog on Ebay in ten years time!'

The awards given were:

Millennium Shield Award:
Kick

Community Challenge Award:
Adam Scott

Commerce in the Community Award: The Riverport Business Club

Entrepreneur Business Award: Jordan Jones of Muscle Monkey

Hidden Gem of St Ives Award: Hunts Sailing Club

Care in the Community Award: Star Crafters

Volunteer of the Year Award: Mrs Sally Heffer-Martin of St Ives Rotary Club

Heart of St Ives Award: Ed Kelly.

Mayor's Charity Fund

Cheques for £1,000 were given to: St Ives Youth Theatre, St Ives Rugby Club youth teams, Calm Town St Ives, the Memory Lane Singing Café and St Ives Rangers Disability Team

Other funds given were:

Darby & Joan St Ives £1,628
Magpas £3,038
Mayor's Youth Fund £3,538.

Elections

Following the presentations, councillors formally re-elected Councillor Pope as Mayor, who announced his charities for the year would include Magpas and the Acorn Cancer Support Group.

Councillor Craig Smith was then unanimously elected Deputy Mayor. He thanked his family for their support and announced that his wife, Becky Smith would be Deputy Mayoress.

DIARY OF EVENTS

MAY

17th - 20th - Centre Theatre Players **A SLICE OF SATURDAY NIGHT** Burgess Hall starting at 7.30pm. There are still a few tickets available. Tickets: www.ticketsource.co.uk/burgesshall or from One Leisure reception.

Saturday 20th - Kidney Cancer UK Fundraiser. The Corn Exchange 7.30pm. Tickets £19.50 includes a fish & chip supper obtainable from the venue or Shirleys Coffee Shop.

Friday 26th - Chapel Arts concert with **Chris Newman and Johnny 'Magic Boy' Wright.** The Riverport Café Bar 7.30pm. Tickets £10 from the bar or on-line from www.ticketsource.co.uk/cexevents.

Saturday 27th - Madison Avenue Motown Night. The Corn Exchange 7pm. Tickets from the venue or from www.ticketsource.co.uk/cexevents.

JUNE

Sunday 25th - Picnic in The Park. Warners Park. A free event featuring live music, beer tent and food stalls. From Noon until 6pm.

Thursday 29th - Chapel Arts concert with **Dickie de Vere & The Dorchester Mavericks.** The Riverport Café Bar 7.30pm. Tickets £10 from the bar or on-line from www.ticketsource.co.uk/cexevents.

JULY

Throughout July and August - Music on The Waits. Every Sunday from 2.30pm until 4pm there will be concerts, which will be at the new Bandstand by the Norris Museum. Bands playing will include: James Schouten, Reggie Ray, Somersham Town Band, The Lightwaves, Deeping Dixielanders, Manea Silver Band, Upwood Ukuleles, Stella Hensley and Accoustics Anonymous. Chairs are provided.

Friday 7th to Sunday 9th - St Ives Carnival & Music Festival. At Hill Rise Park.

Friday 28th - A special Chapel Arts concert with Max de Bernardi & Veronica Sbergia



Fresh from the USA featuring Country & Western, folk and swing music. The Corn Exchange 7.30pm. Tickets £10 from the venue or on-line from www.ticketsource.co.uk/cexevents.



Dear Riverporter

We at the St Ives Free Church and the Methodist Church have long been supporters of Christian Aid. In the past I have organised House to House collections in St Ives. Since Covid fundraising has only been in house, but it feels like the time to make a fresh start. So we are kicking off with a very simple coffee morning with a bring and buy stall in the Methodist Church. Please see the poster below:

christian aid

Free entry!

Christian Aid fundraising coffee morning

Saturday 27th May 2023
10am - 12pm
ST IVES METHODIST CHURCH

- Bring-and-buy stall including jigsaws, books and toys
- Home-made cakes!
- Donations welcome

ALL ARE WELCOME

ORGANISED JOINTLY BY MEMBERS OF ST IVES FREE CHURCH AND ST IVES METHODIST CHURCH



CALL US NOW FOR A FREE QUOTE

Call, text or Whatsapp :

07723 262654

Email:

Sfselectrical@outlook.com



SFS Electrical Contractors Ltd is a family run company offering all aspects of electrical work from domestic to commercial. We are fully insured to take on whatever your project may be no matter whether big or small.

- Electrical Installation Condition Report - Safety Checks - EICR
- Electric Boiler Installation & Servicing
- Electric Cookers
- Electric Heating
- Electric Showers
- Electric Smart Thermostat
- Electric Vehicle Charging
- Electrical Under Floor Heating / Repair
- Fault Finding
- Fuseboards / Consumer Units
- Garden Lighting
- LED Lighting
- Rewires and more.



King Erik enjoyed the Coronation. Did you?



having your say ...

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

The Riverporter

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

OTHER NEWS

Dear Erik,
Subject: Community Education
I am bitterly disappointed with the decision to close Community Education in St Ives. I was so looking forward to a possible Sign Language course in the Autumn. I received this letter ...

Mary
Thank you for getting in touch. The decision to close our provision is linked to finance. Unfortunately the majority of adult education courses no longer receive external funding, this combined with reduced learner numbers means that the provision is no longer financially self sustainable. I hope that you are able to access another sign language course elsewhere in the county.

Anthony Ward Director of School Strategic Operations St Ivo Academy

Ed Not sure what has happened to the lifelong learning promises from the government. Just promises but no funding?

Dear Erik,
Subject: Not a good sign



Town Centre toilets when the Big Picnic was on!

Enda Mathether

Dear Erik,
Subject: Spies, Lies and Double Agents
Zoom event - Monday 22 May 2023
A few places are still available for COPE's upcoming Zoom event on **Monday 22 May** at 3pm.

Join Cambridge tour guide Ruth Meyer over Zoom for an intriguing discussion about the city's connections with famous spies. You will learn how secrets are kept and betrayed – and remember – you never know who may be listening!

Please register by Wednesday 17 May, providing your name and email address. You will be sent the Zoom link shortly before the event.

Telephone: COPE on 01223 364303
Email: copetalkingtogether@hotmail.com
Best wishes **Sally Fen**



St Ives Day Centre celebrates all week

St Ives Day Centre celebrated the Coronation every day last week with a 'picnic' style lunch and lots of decorations. They have played themed games and quizzes, toasted the King and drunk copious amounts of Pimms.

BANDSTAND UPDATE

Bandstand installation begins



Thanks to the amazing generosity of Kevin Page and his team at KA Page Groundworks (pictured above) the installation of the bandstand has begun.

It is expected to take about three weeks before the bandstand is in situ, as the concrete needs to set properly, providing a firm footing.

It is quite a complicated operation and it is hoped that there will be an opening ceremony next month in time for the Sunday afternoon concerts on The Waits to be held.

Once the date is known for completion the Town Team will announce the formal opening, at which everyone who has contributed will be invited to come and enjoy the event, which will no doubt include a free concert.

FESTIVAL EVENTS ST IVES (FEST) PRESENT SUMMER FUN PICNIC IN THE PARK

Warners Park St Ives
Sunday June 25th
12 noon to 6 pm

- Free community event
- Live music
- Beer tent
- Food stalls
- Follow us on facebook
- Activities for children



The Junos



So 80's



Reggae Ray



Chatteris & Manea Silver Band

Sponsors



Supported by

BOONGATE KIA

Homes of the 7 year warranty
Peterborough PE1 5UA, Tel: 01733 344344

SHE SAID
Thursday 1 June 2023
at 7:30pm Door open 6:30pm.
Tickets £5
Director: Maria Schrader
128m, Cert: 15



TÁR
Thursday 15 June 2023
at 7:30pm. Doors open 6:30pm.
Tickets £5
Director: Todd Field,
152m, Cert 15



Tickets from screenstives.org.uk or in the Corn Exchange



The COURTYARD

St Ives

Open-air boutique market, run by independents



We would like to thank all our customers that visited us over the Coronation and Bank Holiday weekend.

The Courtyard kicked off the celebrations with live music from Chip Pauly the Global Busker playing 60s, 70s, Britpop, Indie & Folk Rock.

With Cream teas and Coffees from Café De Toit flowing.



An open-air boutique market with 35 independent traders. A real shopping hotspot!

**Visit us in St Ives
Open 9am until 5pm
Monday to Saturday and
10am until 4pm Sundays.**



thecourtyard@hyperionauctions.co.uk



Left: The 29th Funktion proved very popular and soon had a dedicated audience hanging on every word.
Below: The Town centre baked in sunshine just before 1pm and hardly a seat is left. Photo Media Imaging Solutions.

