

A TOTALLY INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER • UNCONNECTED WITH ANY GROUP OR ORGANISATION

10th Festival to be extra special

Despite some last minute changes to The Old Riverport Jazz & Blues Festival line-up the Town Team, organisers of the event, hope it will be extra special as it features some of the very best live bands from home and abroad.

It is rare for the Festival to alter its programme, but this year there have been several changes due to matters beyond the Team's control.

The first concert of the Festival, traditionally held in the Oliver Cromwell pub (6pm on Thursday 12th) has been moved to The Royal Oak as the 'Olly' closed last week.

The 4pm concert on the Saturday has been cancelled but an extra session with the Festival Blues Dancers is being held in the Corn Exchange at 5pm where you can enjoy a Blues dance lesson.

Due to the Spiral G's drummer, Tom, suffering a heart attack, preventing them from performing (as reported in our last issue - he continues to recover well by the way), their slot, Golden Lion on Friday 13th at 8pm, has been replaced with a new band for the Festival GETNOTGOT. Also a 5-piece Jazz, Funk and Fusion band.

Finally just as we were going to press the Norris Museum confirmed that the Bridge Chapel will remain closed. Thanks to the Golden Lion the Myke Clifford Quartet will now perform at the hotel from midday Saturday.

World renowned musicians

Despite these changes there are still 26 free concerts over 4 days featuring some incredible musicians from abroad and around the UK. These include master violinist Aaron Catlow from Bristol and Dan Walsh, considered one of the best Banjo players in the country.

Here are some more details ...

Jamie Williams & the Roots Collective

Corn Exchange - Friday 13th 7pm

After more than 500 shows Jamie Williams & the Roots Collective is on fire. They return after a super set in the Nelly last year.



The Old Riverport Jazz & Blues Festival Programme 2024

THURSDAY 12TH SEPTEMBER			
6pm	The Royal Oak	Max de Bernadi & Veronica Sbergia	Country, Swing and Blues
6.30pm	Amore Restaurant	Chris Newman & Art Toper	Jazz & Blues Instrumental
7pm	Floods Tavern	The 29th Funktion	Blues, Funk, R&B
8pm	Golden Lion Hotel	Brooks Williams & Aaron Catlow	UK Americana
9.30pm	Nelson's Head	Dickie de Vere & The Dorchester Mavericks	Tunes of the 20s and 30s
FRIDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER			
6pm	Floods Tavern	The Gravy Train Trio	Funk, Soul and Jazz
7pm	The Corn Exchange	Jamie Williams & the Roots Collective	Rocking Roots
7.30pm	Slepe Hall Hotel	Brooks Williams & Dan Walsh	British & Americana Roots
8pm	Golden Lion Hotel	GETNOTGOT	Jazz, Funk, Fusion
9pm	Ivy leaf Club	Claudio Citarella, Freddie Hall and Friends	Soul, Blues and Jazz
10pm	The Corn Exchange	The Houndogs	Rockabilly
SATURDAY 14TH SEPTEMBER			
11am	Ivo Lounge	The Scoundrels	Punchy Rhythm & Blues
Noon	Golden Lion Hotel	Myke Clifford Quartet	Pure Jazz
1pm	The Bandstand	Slightly Chilled	Upbeat Big Band
2pm	The Quay	Fred's House	Award-winning Folk/Rock
5pm	Floods Tavern	Lexie Green and The Indigo Blue	Americana, Blues, R&B
5pm	The Corn Exchange	Festival Blues Dancers	A Dancing the Blues lesson
7pm	Golden Lion Hotel	Mr Griff and The Grifters	Funk & Soul
8.30pm	The Royal Oak	The Lightwaves	A bit of everything ...
9.30pm	Ivy leaf Club	The Reavey Brothers Big Band	Soul, Funk, Disco, Rock & Ska
SUNDAY 15TH SEPTEMBER			
11.30am	Golden Lion Hotel	Django's Tiger	Gypsy Jazz Manouche
12.30pm	Ivo Lounge	Split Whiskers	Chicago Blues
2pm	The Quay	The Barefoot Doctors	Electric Blues
3pm	The Bandstand	St Neuts Big Band	Big Band Dance Music
4pm	Nelson's Head	The Shufflepack	Shuffling Blues
6pm	The Lounge	Mola Mola Jambalaya	Rock & Roll, Soul & Blues

The Houndogs

Corn Exchange - Friday 13th 10pm

The Houndogs are three brothers who have been performing professionally for over 10 years, during which time they have built up an enormous following.



Their shows are captivating, fun and the chemistry between the boys on stage makes for a performance like no other. Never a dull moment!

The Barefoot Doctors

The Quay - Sunday 15th 2pm

The Barefoot Doctors need little introduction as they feature local musicians Stella Hensley (vocals) and Chris Newman (guitar). They also feature Jeff Rich (of Status Quo/Def Leppard) on Drums, Jon Sykes (of The Pineapple Thief) on

Bass, the versatile Myke Clifford on sax and brilliant Art Toper on keyboard.

Split Whiskers

Ivo Lounge - Sunday 15th 12.30pm

Their superb musicianship and infectious humour promises a great lunchtime entertainment as always. They are fronted by Gilby J. Fletcher on vocals & blues harp with Johnny 'Magic Boy' Wright on vocals and electric guitars; Matt Willshaw on keys; Lee Charles Phillips on bass and Rick Hudson on drums.

Don't miss out on our Festival CD.

26 tracks from the bands playing this year. Plus your Festival T-Shirt with its unique logo and details of every band and venue. Available from Nelson's Head, Floods and the Corn Exchange.



TONIGHT Friday 30th August Huntingdon Guitar Ensemble



A mixed programme from early music through the classical and romantic era, to folk and modern written pieces. Something to suit all tastes.

Live music from seven guitarists

Doors open at 6.45pm concert starts at 7.30pm.

Tickets £10 from the Bar or www.ticketsource.co.uk/cexevents



DIARY OF EVENTS

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

AUGUST

Saturday 31st - St Ives Flower, Craft and Produce Show - St Ives Corn Exchange. Doors open to public at 12.15. Website www.stivesshow.org.uk

SEPTEMBER

Wednesday 4th - Age UK Drop In at the Warm Welcome at the Burleigh Hill Community Centre from 10am to 2pm.

Wednesday 4th - Engage Talk - Edith Cavell: pioneer, martyr, patriot, and her connection to Peterborough - St Ives Library 2pm.

Friday 6th The Mayor of St Ives Summer Ball at The Out Out Club, The Broadway, St Ives. Tickets from the Town Hall. £19.50 per person, including a welcome drink, professional photographer and a raffle.

Saturday 7th - Saturday Art Club (for children) - make collaged birds inspired by the picturebook artist Eric Carle. St Ives Library 10am-12pm (£1).

Saturday 7th - Art Club for Adults - A new drop-in session for adults to explore their creativity and develop skills. St Ives Library 1pm-3pm (£1).

Sunday 8th - Civic Sunday starts 11 am in Station Road.

Wednesday 11th - Sew, Mend and Save Café at the Burleigh Hill Community Centre from 10am to 2pm. Have you any primary school aged children's coats you could donate?

Thursday 12th - Sunday 15th - The Old Riverport Jazz & Blues Festival 2024 - see the full programme (left)

Saturday 14th - Heritage Open Day.

Saturday 14th - RAFA charity band concert at the Free Church. Tickets £15 from ticketsource.co.uk/rafa-wings-concert or the Free Church office.

Friday 27th - Chapel Arts concert with GetNotGot - Contemporary jazz and funk. St Ives Corn Exchange 7.30pm. Tickets £10 from the Bar or www.ticketsource.co.uk/cexevents.

Saturday 28th - Repair café - Methodist Church.

Saturday 28th - IT'S A KIND OF MAGIC - The Centre Theatre Players Burgess Hall of One Leisure starting at 7.30pm. Tickets for the show are £12 and can be obtained online from www.ticketsource.co.uk/starliteroadshow.

OCTOBER

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 - Wednesday 16th - Michaelmas Fair - Town Centre.

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.

Holt Island Honey available again

The Friends of Holt Island Nature Reserve are pleased to announce their hard-working bees have been busy this summer, and so jars of the ever-popular Island honey are now available on a first-come first-served basis - maximum two jars per order. Donations of £5 per jar are welcomed which can be made via the website www.holtisland.org. Go to the Get Involved/Donate page. Please add your surname and 'HONEY' as reference. You can then collect your jar(s) from an address in The Broadway by emailing ian89424@gmail.com, or texting 07836 248360.



A Brand New Website for the people of St Ives

Whether you are looking for a local business or for an upcoming event, The Hub has it all. If you are a local business or hosting events in the town, you are welcome to register an account and list for FREE!

You can even submit a local news article to be approved and shared on the website and through our social media channels.

Councillor Julie Kerr is the driving force of this Town Council owned project, which will also appear on the new electric display screens, soon to be installed in the town centre. Simon Clark of SDC Digital has created the website.



Walking is good for you . . .

With so many people living longer and many in poor health it is important to maintain fitness for as long as possible and walking is a good activity for doing that.

We have just seen the Olympics and marvelled at the incredible feats of fitness and skill and no doubt to get to that level takes months and years of training. Of course the average person cannot achieve that but most of us can walk and that has proven to be one of the best ways to stay fit.

Walking, especially in a group, is also a good way to socialise and meet people and Huntingdonshire Ramblers is one such group that welcomes new members.

Huntingdonshire Ramblers have been tramping the footpaths around our area for at least 50 years, possibly more. Details about the formation of the group are a little sketchy, but since we fancied a party we decided to celebrate 50 years of walking with several 'special' events this summer, which have been well received by members and include a London walk and a Boat 'n' Boots walk in conjunction with the St Ives Electric Boat Company.

A walk and picnic event was well attended by current and past members. Our regular programme includes a walk every weekend, ranging from 5 - 15 miles, both locally around Huntingdonshire and sometimes venturing over the border to hillier places such as the Chilterns, and Northants.

In the summer months we also have a midweek evening walk of 3 - 4 miles. You will find details of our group and our forthcoming walks on our website: www.huntsramblers.org.uk. If you decide to join us you will be made very welcome, but if you are new to walking or our group please do contact the leader in the first instance.

For more information email huntsrambler@gmail.com

Our forthcoming walks, with brief details:			
2 Nov	Hemingford Abbots, walk followed by AGM	2 Nov	Hemingford Abbots, walk followed by AGM
7 Sept	Barton le Clay - 10.5 miles	9 Nov	Cambridge - 10 Miles
14 Sept	Willington - 7 miles	14 Nov	Abbots Ripton - 6 miles
21 Sept	Kings Cliff - 10 miles	16 Nov	Alconbury - 7.8 miles
28 Sept	Cambourne - 5.2 miles	23 Nov	Little Paxton - 7 miles
29 Sept	Thrapston - 12 miles	7 Dec	Houghton walk followed by Christmas lunch
6 Oct	Sharpenhoe Clappers - 9.9 miles	14 Dec	Catworth - 8.5 miles
12 Oct	Sawtry - 7.3 miles	21 Dec	Southwick - 8 miles
19 Oct	Toft - 7.8 miles	28 Dec	Grafham Water Pubduster - 9 miles
27 Oct	Thetford Forest - 8 miles		



ST IVES - The Burleigh Hill Centre, PE27 3ER

TUESDAYS at 9.30 am with Kathie

THURSDAYS at 5.30 pm with Vikki

FRIDAYS 9.30 am with Kathie

SATURDAYS at 8.00 am & 9.30 am with Kathie

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Bandstand in fine Nick

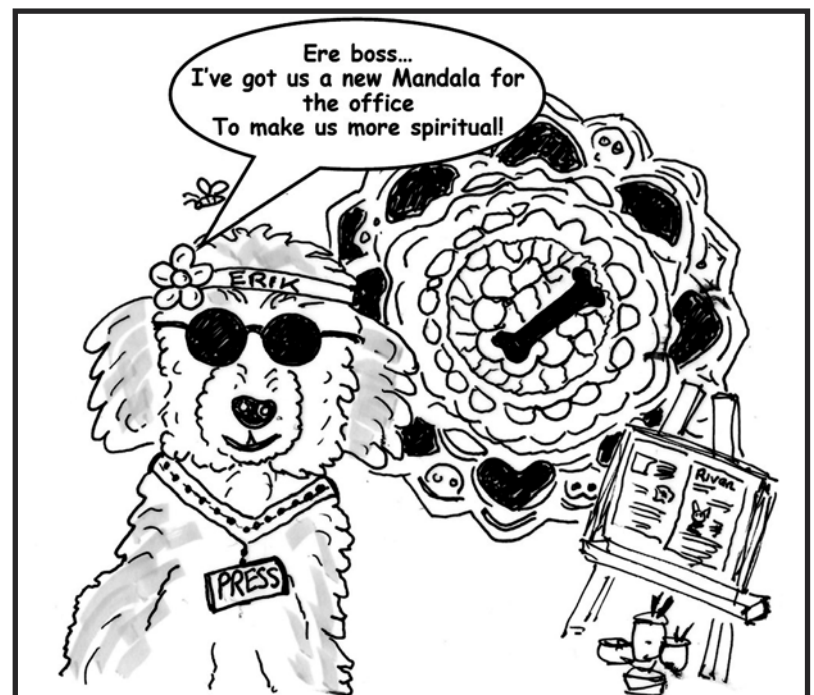
Some of you may have noticed a gentleman spending lots of time on a ladder painting the bandstand. That is Nick Brown, seen here in his Old Riverport Jazz & Blues Festival T-shirt, who kindly offered to paint the spandrels (curly bits) on the bandstand with gold paint. He didn't realise just how long it would take but perseverance has paid off and he is nearing the last (and 18th) one.

The gold paint had weathered differently and the areas originally sprayed on were looking very dull. Thanks to Nick and several tins of gold paint, the bandstand is looking wonderful again, like it has always been there!



What is a Mandala?

The Editor was intrigued by the advert (p3 bottom right) for a Giant Nature Mandala, mainly because he had no idea what a mandala was! He looked it up . . . and it is a geometric configuration of symbols. In various spiritual traditions, mandalas may be employed as a spiritual guidance tool, for establishing a sacred space and as an aid to meditation and trance. Erik thought this a great idea and might go along on Sunday to find out more!





Erik loves a rosette.



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

Burger King restaurant flame grilled?

Cambridgeshire Fire Service was called to Fenstanton last Tuesday as the roof of the former fast food restaurant collapsed and the neighbouring Travelodge hotel was advised to keep



windows and doors shut.

The fire was out by 20:30 but crews remained there for another hour and returned the following day for a reinspection and an investigation into the cause.



Tenant with deep pockets required

Wells & Co are seeking tenants to run the Oliver Cromwell Pub (The Olly). Described as a Century Grade II listed character-laden property with a fair maintainable profit of £49,000. They say it is an ideal opportunity for an experienced operator to take on a thriving town centre premises benefitting from the annual local events that take place throughout St Ives (do they mean the Old Riverport Jazz & Blues Festival?).



With rent at £44,500 and further startup costs in excess of £90k, whoever takes it on will need to work hard to bring back the trade and have sufficient funds to survive while that happens.

Christmas Lights switch on November 16

The Christmas Lights Committee are already working on the 'Switch-on day'. Their Facebook page is asking for businesses to get involved in what they describe as a 'highly anticipated occasion in our community, attracting a diverse crowd of attendees who come to enjoy a day filled with entertainment, food, and unique shopping experiences'. Businesses interested need to be quick as bookings close on 31st August. Who said Christmas gets earlier every year!

150 victims rescued in Cambridgeshire

New statistics reveal that 150 potential victims of modern slavery were rescued in Cambridgeshire in a year. 'Sadly, slavery is happening right here' said a Cambs Police spokesperson. 'Whether it's at hand car washes, nail bars, takeaways or even the care sector, it [modern slavery] can happen pretty much anywhere'

If you think modern slavery is happening, tell someone as soon as you think it's safe to. You can report modern slavery to police using their online crime reporting service. Or call us on 101 at any time. The Salvation Army provides specialist support for survivors of modern slavery.

Erik received two letters about the crash at the corner of Ramsey Road and The Waits two weeks ago. The driver of the taxi fled the scene. According to the Police they were called out but as there were no injuries they were not required to attend, however there seems to be clear evidence of driving without due care and attention!

A previous accident in October 2022, which *The Riverporter* covered in issue 121, resulted in the damaged railings taking a year to be repaired. Lets hope that is not the case again.

Dear Erik,

I am writing to inform your readership about a serious and alarming incident that occurred two weeks ago at 2PM at the corner of Ramsey Road and The Waits.



A taxi driver from a local company was observed speeding above the 20 mph limit and crashed into the poles. The incident was particularly concerning because it almost resulted in injury to pedestrians.

This corner has been a recurring site of dangerous driving and accidents, and despite the 20 mph speed limit, enforcement appears to be lacking. The community has raised concerns multiple times, but the situation remains unresolved, putting both residents and visitors at significant risks.

This area is heavily trafficked by pedestrians, and the current situation poses a severe risk to their safety. Given the frequent visitors to St Ives, particularly on Fridays and Saturdays, the risk is further heightened by increased traffic from patrons of local pubs.

Another accident occurred exactly at the same location 2 years ago:



I am aware that many residents of the area would appreciate your paper to bring attention to this issue as public awareness may prompt the necessary actions with traffic calming measures from local authorities. It's crucial that steps are taken to ensure the safety of our streets before a tragedy occurs.

Thank you for considering this story. Your help in highlighting this issue could make a real difference in our community. **Charles**

Dear Erik,

Subject: St Ives Speeding Black Spot.

All Residents on both side of Ramsey Road are demanding action. On Friday August 16th, just about 12 noon approximately a speeding taxi crashed into the steel bollards at the junction of the Waits and Ramsey roads. Luckily pedestrians were spared this time. It was a sunny clear day on a very busy market day.

The taxi driver drove his seriously damaged vehicle immediately away from the scene, not waiting for the police to investigate.

He did not leave his details with residents but fled the scene of the accident. The residents have video and photos which have been turned over to the council highways agency and the local police.

In a few more seconds the taxi would have crashed into a senior citizen being pushed in a wheelchair by her nurse. Many other residents were also present in close proximity at the time of the crash as this is market day in town.

When is the council going to stop the constant speeding at this junction?

Traffic calming is desperately required on lower Ramsey Road. Three traffic crashes in 24 Months have occurred.

Does someone have to die in order to have some action taken?

Would appreciate some creative reporting of all this daily dangerous driving on this stretch of road in the Riverporter.

Regards, William Southworth

Dear Erik,

Subject: St Ives Choral Society 50th

We are holding a Gala Concert in the Free Church on 16 November (see advert page 4). We are delighted that the Mayor of St Ives, Cllr Pasco Hussain, will be with us that evening and will deliver a short address on the history of the Society. Tickets available very soon so please share this event with friends and family and help us have a wonderful evening.

Many thanks,

June York

Dear Erik,

Subject: Battle of Britain Wings Appeal

Huntingdonshire Concert Band is giving a musical evening in aid of the RAF Association Huntingdon and District branch 'Wings Appeal' on Saturday 14th September in the Free Church St Ives. See diary on page 1 for details. Last year's Concert was a great success in raising funds for the RAFA Charity. The branch Committee hopes you will come along, enjoy the music and support the charity that supports the RAF family.

Paul Davidson Vice Chair RAFA Huntingdon

Chapel Update

According to the Norris Museum the Chapel will remain closed for Heritage open Day. *The Riverporter* is in discussion with the County Council and Historic England about St Ives' most important building. Both have questioned why it needs to be closed and we hope to bring more news on this in our next issue.

opening circles
connecting people through creativity

No.1
POP-UP EVENT

Join us for our first opening circle event to create a

GIANT NATURE MANDALA

Under the Band Stand on the Waits, in St Ives

PLEASE BRING
A PICNIC & A BLANKET
SOME NATURAL MATERIALS

- sticks, leaves, flowers, berries, stones -
scissors, secateurs would be useful

Enjoy a bit of impromptu music played by friends...

SUNDAY 1 SEPTEMBER - 10AM TO 2PM



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Formally PR Masala, find us in Chapel lane behind the Golden Lion



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ARWEN GILBERT

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Vivaldi Gloria

from the Classical

Haydn Te Deum

from the Romantic

Fauré Requiem

with the
Medlock Sinfonia

FREE CHURCH, ST IVES
Saturday 16 November 2024 7.30pm

Tickets Adults £16 accompanied children under 12 free

Book your tickets online at
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