

# The Riverporter

A TOTALLY INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER • UNCONNECTED WITH ANY GROUP OR ORGANISATION

## Look out for Vidimus

Between Wednesday 17 and Sunday 21 October from 6pm onwards you will be able to see our beautiful Chapel illuminated as never before.

Under the title Vidimus, part of the Town Team's Chapel Arts Season, the installation will offer a kaleidoscopic dream of creation, a divine union of dark and light as artist Holly Genevieve projects images onto the windows of the Chapel.

Holly created the installation inspired by stained glass and sacred imagery (see right) and you will be able to see this spectacular light show from The Quay or the Bridge - of course it will be in colour!



## Chapel Arts Season

Reflections on Nature  
with composer

*Jenni Pinnock*



Friday 12th October 7.30pm for 8pm

Tickets £10 from [www.ticketsource.co.uk/eventsstives](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/eventsstives)  
or from The Corn Exchange

For details [www.theoldriverportstives.co.uk](http://www.theoldriverportstives.co.uk)

### SPECIAL EVENT

Not only has the season of musical events been enjoyed by full audiences this year - artists, too, love playing in our unique chapel.

The intimate venue benefits from wonderful acoustics and it seems this is attracting musicians who want to perform here. As a result we are adding an extra-special concert with Guitarist and composer Federico Pecchia, from Argentina.

Federico will be taking a break from his busy schedule, which includes playing in Brussels, Polonia and Granada, and although only in the UK for a short while he wishes to play in our chapel.

He plays tango amazingly (of course) so look out for this final 'hot' concert of the season on Saturday evening 17th November.

*I guess we will have to put the heating on!*

## Silver lining after ram raid

**T**he Co-op in Constable Road was severely damaged as criminals stole the cash machine located at the front of the store. A 10ft square hole was left as the ram raiders pulled the cash machine from the building using a mini digger.



The Co-op confirmed that the ATM was removed during the night on 27 September. No members of staff were on duty at the time and no one was hurt. The store was soon trading normally and said they would give their full support to the Police.

This was the 11th ram raid in the County and 5th in Huntingdonshire this year. Other Co-ops have been targeted in the country and the company is introducing new security measures.

Police are appealing for witnesses after officers were called at 3.16am to the store. Officers followed two vehicles, a grey Audi S3 Quattro and a blue Mazda B2500 but were unable to trace them.

The good news is that the quick response by the Police prevented the robbers from getting away with the money as the ATM was retrieved unopened.

A Police spokesman described this as a silver lining.

Det Sgt Dan Cooper said: 'This was clearly a planned incident, with those responsible showing little regard for the safety of the public. I would urge anyone with information about the incident or those responsible to contact us.'

Anyone with information is asked to call on 101 or report online at [camb.s.police.uk/report](http://camb.s.police.uk/report). Alternatively, you can report anonymously at [www.crimestoppers-uk.org](http://www.crimestoppers-uk.org)

## NEW VENUE AND DATE

The FREE Creative Craft Sessions for those living with Dementia and their Carers has moved to The Corn Exchange and is now at 2pm on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday afternoon of each month. For information call Sandra on 07913 346845

## Screen St Ives

Doors open at 7.30pm and films start at 8pm. Refreshments are available before the screening. All tickets cost only £5, and are available online or in person at the Corn Exchange, St Ives.

Friday 19th Oct 2018  
**THE SHAPE OF WATER**

15

Screen 1

Director: Guillermo del Toro USA 2017 2h 3m



A powerful story of love, secrecy and survival set in 1962 against the backdrop of the Cold War in America. Lonely, silent Elisa is captivated by the strange creature who is at

the heart of a bizarre experiment. Breathtaking technical achievements earned the film its Best Picture Oscar.

# Switch on to Christmas in The Corn Exchange...



**T**he Snowmen and Snowladies are coming to town and once again there will be a chance for shoppers to win a £200 John Lewis Voucher by collecting a sticker from all participating stores in the Snowman Trail which starts on Saturday 24th Nov.

## Christmas Window Competition

A new initiative this year, thanks to the generosity of Estate Agents Ellis Winters is a £200 cash prize for the best dressed Snowman Christmas Window, which we hope will encourage more people to make some really amazing displays that will brighten up the Town even more.

## Snowman Festival Day & Christmas Gift Fair

This popular day of FREE activities for children, including craft sessions, will be held upstairs in the Corn Exchange from 10.30am. There is a Christmas Gift Fair in the main hall with refreshments, carol singers and lots more so you can 'Switch on to Christmas in The Corn Exchange' before watching the Christmas Lights being switched on in Market Hill.

*Left: Mike Ellis from Ellis Winters is greeted by the Snowladies on the Bridge.*

## 100th anniversary celebrations planned for the end of the First World War

St Ives is planning a range of events to mark the end of the First World War on 11th November (see programme below).

The Town Team will be helping St Ives celebrate with two special events. The first is at 2pm in the Methodist Church.

The Team will be launching the publication of a book celebrating the life of Huntingdonshire's First World War Poet & Flying Ace, Flight-Commander Miles Jeffrey Game Day DSC, RNAS. The book includes his poems, letters and correspondence with his

family and close friend Hilton Young and fascinating details and pictures of the early years of aviation and Jeffreys' part in it.

There will be some readings of his poems and plus a chance to see excerpts of the film of the celebratory evening that the Town Team put on in The Corn Exchange in March this year.

The second event from the Town Team will be in The Bridge Chapel between 5.30pm and 6.30pm when there will be an hour of songs from both the First and Second World War.

## THE BATTLE'S OVER – A TOWN'S TRIBUTE

**Below is the proposed plan of events although this may change before the date**

06:00	Bag pipes to be played at Parish Church
10:30	Remembrance Day Service and Parade – Market Hill
13:00-16:00	Exhibition - 1918:2018 Huntingdonshire Remembers - Norris Museum
14:00-15:00	Launch of the Jeffrey Day book - Methodist Church
14:30-17.30	Tea Dance – Corn Exchange with music by Philip Tyler, Steps in Time. (Tickets £5 all proceeds to the British Legion available from the Corn Exchange). Bouncy Castle and Puppet Show – Burleigh Hill Community Centre Space for Quiet Reflection – Parish Church
17:30-18.30	A Service for Peace – Parish Church Songs from both World Wars – Chapel on the Bridge
18:55	The Last Post – Parish Church
19:00	WW1 Beacon Lighting – Parish Church roof
19:05	Ringling out for Peace – Bells at the Parish Church
19.30-21.30	Huntingdon Big Band Concert – Free Church

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

East Anglia's Children's Hospices (EACH) need volunteers to help at a super market collection at Morrisons in St Ives on 22nd October! We are looking for pairs of volunteers to cover a 2 hour shift from 9am – 11am and 2pm – 4pm. Collections are a great way for us to raise valuable funds and a couple hours of your time can make a huge difference!

All you have to do is stand with a bucket, smile and watch the generous donations come your way...

**If anyone would be interested in taking part please contact us on 01223 204916 or email [ellen.bing@each.org.uk](mailto:ellen.bing@each.org.uk)**



## Dementia Friendly Community Award



Chair of the St Ives DFC Steering Group, Ian Jackson, was delighted to receive a cheque from the Waitrose & Partners green token Community Matters scheme for the month of August. Jackie Neish and Andrew Burke made the presentation.

Ian said, 'This will help enormously as we work to increase awareness of dementia and its effects in our town. Thank you Waitrose and all the shoppers who supported us.'



## St Ives Choral Society

17 November 2018: Britten and Brahms  
7.30pm, Free Church, St Ives

For our Autumn concert this term we bring you two contrasting pieces from the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. One tells the true story of Saint Nicolas, the other is settings of German Ländler-type songs for choir.

Linking them is an integral part for piano duet, and we are pleased to welcome Anne Taylor to partner our regular accompanist, Olga Elbourn. We are also delighted to welcome local young players and singers to perform with us in St Nicolas. Tickets available from [www.ticketsource.co.uk/st-ives-choral-society](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/st-ives-choral-society) and from the Fair Trade Shop in the Free Church. Tickets £12/£10 concessions (accompanied children under 16 free)

**ST IVES CHORAL SOCIETY** Autumn Concert  
Piano duet: Olga Elbourn and Anne Taylor  
17 November 2018



BRITTEN  
**St Nicolas**  
Tenor: Alex Pidgen



BRAHMS  
**Liebeslieder Waltzes op. 52**

7.30pm Free Church St Ives  
Tickets Adults £12 and £10 (concessions) accompanied children under 16 free  
Available online from [www.ticketsource.co.uk/st-ives-choral-society](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/st-ives-choral-society) and from the Fair Trade shop in the Free Church, St Ives

## In case you were wondering?

The road works planned to start 2 weeks ago in Crown Street, as reported in the last issue of *The Riverporter*, are now due to start on 29th of this month. They will take place late at night, to avoid too much disruption to businesses, and hopefully take around 2 weeks to complete.

having your say ...

# The Riverporter



## Dear Erik PAWS FOR THOUGHT

Get it off your chest, email *Erik* at: [editor@theriverporter.uk](mailto:editor@theriverporter.uk)

Dear Erik,

I enjoy reading all the articles in the Riverporter every two weeks. It is good we have a newspaper that doesn't take itself too seriously. Well done.

p.s. One typo on the front page of the 18th issue is that for the Lloyds Chemist caption. I presume it was either 2nd or 9th.

Thank you for including the passing of John Smoothy. He was also a long standing member and Committee member of the Huntingdon and District RAFA and will be missed by all of us. Paul

Editor: It was the 9th September. Thanks. I changed it on the on-line copy available at [www.theriverporter.uk](http://www.theriverporter.uk)

Dear Erik,

Can you let readers know about our next COPE meeting, which will be at the St Ives Free Church on Friday the 12th October 2018 10:30 to 12:30, when our speaker will be Jason Middleton on the History of Jewelry. Jason gave a talk recently on pearls when he showed a vast array of samples, he will bring suitable samples for us to handle (returning them at the end!)

There will be the usual excellent raffle and tea, coffee, cakes etc...

£2 entry to cover the cost of the meeting.

Look forward to seeing you all again. Please bring your friends and join in with good company and good conversation.



## Festival Jam session

This year's St Ives Jazz and Blues festival grows in its success every year and this year saw the first impromptu 'Jam session' held in the ACE suite of the Corn exchange. The Town Team organisers were delighted with a full house and the amazing performers that turned up to join in the music. Sadly, we didn't get all the musician's names, but we did get to meet an amazing lady, Jean, who played the trombone, a very capable conga drum player and a fantastic harmonica player that totally wowed the audience with a brilliant blues jam with guitarists Dan and Ron.

But it seems news of our music festival is starting to travel the world because we learned today that a tweet about a gentleman who played the saw (yes you read that right, a saw) and was very good, has received an invite to perform in New York (see right).

Next year's jam, we're sure, will be even better... Play on!



## Don't take our word for it!

Yes this year's Old Riverport Jazz & Blues Festival was the best ever!

Well that seems to be the verdict of many people - not least the opinion of that venerable publication *The Pink Un*. Published by the Old Gits (their title not ours) it's the in-house magazine of the Olly Crom and published for fun, so good on 'em.

Anyway they said 'What an event' and have devoted a whole page to it, which you can read at the Olly.

Do you know this man?

Pictured below is a harmonica player (see above). Sadly Ron lost his details - so if you know him, please ask him to get in touch with *The Riverporter*.



## PINK UN THE OLD GITS

PROOF

### THE BLUES STEVE'S YORKSHIRE TRIP

ISSUE 22  
OCTOBER 2018

The Old Riverport Jazz & Blues Festival  
What an event. Held against the magical backdrop of St Ives this four day happening featuring 30 musical turns was a sell out! Actually it was free! But what a time was had by all who attended.  
The festival was opened formally in The Olly by John Souter who also introduced 'The Gravy Train Trio'

whole occasion was splendidly organised by The St Ives Town Team. Congratulations to Chairman Sheila Stones, John Souter and Chris Lewis for the planning and introductions and everyone associated with the logistics, promotion and hosting of this wonderful experience.

The Olly came to the fore again when The Whiskeygs played there on Saturday. They stood in for OG Pete Raven's band Black Velvet. Pete was recovering from surgery. All the best Pete.

Our editor also enjoyed Dickie de Vere at Floods, Dove & Rowland at the Golden Lion, Sure-Cap Playboys at Floods, Keith Pearson Trio at River Terrace - thanks for the canapes ☺ and Cath Coombs at the Ivy Leaf Club - what a session!



## TOWN COUNCIL NEWS

### BREAKING NEWS

The Town Council's Press and Publicity Committee committed Hari Kari on Wednesday evening when councillors decided that the P&P Committee is no longer needed. It seemed quite a surprise for this to happen as the agenda didn't announce that this issue was to be discussed. Of course it is likely that the whole council will need to ratify this decision so that all councillors can have their say on the matter. The public too have the right to know what is to be discussed at council meetings so that they can hear the debate, even though they cannot make comment.

### Did *The Riverporter* kill off the P&P Committee?

The reason for this decision seems to centre on the lack of time available for councillors to do publicity work and whether or not there is sufficient work for a committee. It is understood that *The Bridge* magazine will continue for the time being and the 'working party' will continue, although its membership and remit may need clarification.

Editor: my initial reaction, as one who instigated the P&P Committee in the late 1990s when the Council launched *The Bridge* magazine, is that a busy, effective, town council would have a lot to do keeping the public informed of the work it, and the community does. Perhaps this decision reflects upon the amount of work this council does or that *The Riverporter* does such a good job that the council doesn't need to publicise anything now!

The Town Clerk has said she will be making a recommendation to next weeks Full Council meeting based on the committees discussions.

## SOCIAL MEDIA NEWS

Quite a lot of the debate on our local media seemed to be about the new McDonald's which opened last week and apparently has high-tech kiosks and other 'innovative' features. Although I rarely go to McD's even I know that it will be a success. I was living in France when McDonalds outlets started to spread around that country. A country that protested violently when the first store opened is now one of McDonalds' fastest growing regions and the French are getting fat, at last.

Mind you I'm not sure the St Ives branch is so high-tech as the 'new' click and collect was in foreign branches years ago. Well they say it has created 90 jobs locally, which is good news but it may be at the expense of some jobs in other local 'food chain' businesses, especially those in the town centre, which seems to be attracting less shoppers according to traders.

## WANTED SAWPLAYER

During last weeks Jam Session at the Jazz & Blues Festival in the Corn Exchange one of the participants played a saw. We know he visited the town on a boat but don't know how to contact him, which is sad because he's wanted in America!

Having heard of his appearance a lady in the States sent us this message.

Please tell the sawist to contact [MusicalSawFestival.org](http://MusicalSawFestival.org) for an invite to play at the NYC Musical Saw Festival. Thank you!

This morning (Tuesday) about 2 miles from St Ives on the Guided Busway Unbelievable!



Everything must go!  
So much for NEW LOOK ...



## REASONS TO BE OPEN!

After 5 months of not being able to get into one of the Waits notice boards we are happy to report that a key has been found, allowing us to repeat a well-worn French joke.

FRAPPE FRAPPE

Qui et là?

Lost!

Lost Qui?

Non ... c'est trouvé





## Prime Brass to Perform in Parish Church

Prime Brass, a 10 piece brass ensemble with added percussion, will be performing at **All Saints Church, Church Street, St Ives on 27th October at 7pm.**

This promises to be a fun packed evening of varied repertoire with something for everyone. Tickets for adults £8 (children free) can be bought on the door for and include refreshments.

From our Environmental Correspondent .... Heidi N. D'Tries

## Bottoms up on The Waits!



Well, there I was sauntering along The Waits, like I do, when what did I spy but a row of bottoms bobbing up and down. Now I'm a broadminded girl, as you know, but I have to confess I crossed the road to get a closer look.

Some have criticised the lack of volunteers recently but I'm glad to report that the community spirit in St Ives is alive and well, even at 2 pm on a Tuesday and not far from both the Parish and Methodist Churches.

It soon transpired that the ladies and gentleman there where in fact the St Ives in Bloom gang, vigorously weeding, trimming and pruning the lovely flowerbed on the corner. What a relief!

Well, it was a bit early in the day for me. Heidi xxx

The St Ives Old Riverport

# Flea on the Quay

Collectables • Crafts • Antiques  
Curious items • Objet d'art

## This Sunday

from 10am to 2pm on The Quay  
Subject to dry weather

ADVERTORIAL

## Is a stamp duty overhaul needed?

Mike Ellis of Ellis Winters suggests something isn't working when it comes to the Government's housing strategy



**ellis  
winters  
&co**

According to the latest government figures, stamp duty receipts rose by 10% in the last financial year, 2017/2018. The average amount raised in tax per residential property sale now stands at a staggering £8,400.

£13 billion was paid to HMRC last year, with £2 billion coming from the higher 3% second home duty and £5 billion from the London market.

70,000 transactions incurred no tax at all as they were first time buyers who claimed the stamp duty relief.

However the National Association of Estate Agents have reported that sales to first time buyers have hit a three year low, so clearly something isn't working.

The Government is trying to find a solution to the never ending problem of house price increases.

Surely they've realised that market demands will determine prices in a free market economy and should be left to itself.

Maybe, what they should do, is build more council houses from the money they've raised to help alleviate the pressure on the rental sector. Just a thought!

If you are thinking about buying or selling and want some sound advice, please call us on 01 480 388 888.



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