

The Riverporter

PLEASE READ AND PASS ON

COVERING THE NEWS FOR ST IVES AND AROUND

Issue I9I: 22 August 2025

A TOTALLY INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER • UNCONNECTED WITH ANY GROUP OR ORGANISATION

Fires, new sports and drugs!

Two fires, a new sports venue and a drugs bust feature in the past week's news. It now just needs Rock & Roll and fortunately that features on page 4 of this edition.

Fire fighters were called to a blaze in a wooded area of Hill Rise just before 3.30pm on Tuesday (August 19) where they found a tree stump on fire.

Kira Jayne Knibbs had captured the burning wooden stump on video and posted it on-line. The risk of the fire spreading in the current dry conditions gave rise to the prompt action. It's cause was determined as accidental.

The other blaze was at Envar Composting in Woodhurst. Fire crews from Ramsey, Chatteris and Manea, including a water carrier, along with the command unit from Huntingdon, were called to the incident at 8.40am on Monday. Firefighters continued to battle the fire on Tuesday, which also involved firefighters from Newmarket in Suffolk in attendance.

New Sports Facility

Tonbridge Golf Centre Ltd, have submitted plans to Huntingdonshire District Council to build three Pulse Padel courts on the land at the Blue Diamond Garden Centre in Wyton. Padel, is a form of racket sport, and is being promoted as a 'fun and healthy' activity that will make a positive impact on the whole community.

The Lawn Tennis Association, the governing body for Padel, has said that introducing courts will boost the local economy by encouraging people to come here to play as well as improving the fitness levels in the community and beyond.

Concerns have been raised by Houghton and Wyton Parish Council, as well as people living near the site, about light pollution from the courts. Other concerns also include the

operating hours and potential noise disturbance. HDC is due to make a decision on the future of the padel courts by August 21.

The drugs bust

Two men spent a night in the cells after leading police officers on a chase through gardens and Warner's Park in St Ives.

Neighbourhood officers were on patrol in St Ives on 19 August when they spotted a van parked up in the street.

As they approached it, the van started to drive away and the passenger jumped out and made a run for it. He led police officers on a chase across the park and through residential gardens before he was arrested in Park Avenue. The van driver was also taken into custody and both are under investigation on suspicion of drug offences.

Does Asylum hotel judgement reward thugs?

The implications of the judgement by the High Court to grant a temporary injunction to stop asylum seekers from lodging at The Bell Hotel in Epping has yet to be felt.

The judgement, although based on planning law, where the hotel had not sought a change of use, will have

repercussions throughout the country. It specifically mentioned that there is a public safety risk due to the violence associated with the protests outside the hotel.

Has the judge has not foreseen the greater harm this judgement may cause?

Already many Councils are considering doing the same and it won't be long before we see many more authorities follow the example of Epping - in staging 'peaceful protests', as Nigel Farage has already urged them to do in an article in the Telegraph. Ed.

PLEASE NOTE: The next issue of *The Riverporter* will be in three weeks, on 12 September 2025.

DIARY OF EVENTS

Please email: editor@theriverporter.uk

AUGUST

Friday 29th - Chapel Arts concert with Johnny 'Magic Boy' Wright and Ranjan Vasudevan - See page 4.

SEPTEMBER

Wednesday 3rd - Autism and ADHD today: Pathology or Personality? - 2pm - St Ives Library - Donations Welcome

Are autism and ADHD disorders? Or are they part of natural human variation? In this presentation, Dr Kevin Bryant takes a critical look at some of the evidence in an attempt to shed some light on this controversial area.

Thursday 11th - Sun 14th - The Old Riverport Jazz & Blues Festival - A FREE to attend Festival featuring 28 concerts - See page 4.

Saturday 13th - Heritage Day when many of the most important town buildings will be open to the public.

Saturday 13th Royal Air forces Association, Battle of Britain band concert. Huntingdonshire Concert Band, at the Free Church, in aid of the RAFA wings appeal. Doors open at 6.45pm concert starts at 07.30pm. Tickets £15 from the Free Church or ticketsource.co.uk/rafa-wings-concert.

Friday 26th - COSI lunchtime concert - Music for Trumpet and Piano James Stygall, with Frank Dudbridge on Piano, present this free lunchtime concert featuring many different trumpets and the music of Hertel, Handel, Haydn, Hartmann, Honegger and Robson. 1pm at St Ives Free Church.

Saturday 27th - Freedom Parade by 42 Engineers (Geographic) who will exercise their right to march in the Town Centre and will be joined on this occasion by the Band of the Welsh Guards.

OCTOBER

Saturday 11th - The Old Riverport Ukulele Festival. St Ives Corn Exchange 9.30 am. Tickets £10 - www.ticketsource.co.uk/eventsstives.

Monday 13th - Wednesday 15th - The Michaelmas Fair.

Saturday 18th - Huntingdonshire Philatelic Society Stamp and Postcard Fair Corn Exchange 10am-3pm Free admission. 01480 468037.

NOVEMBER

Sunday 9th - Remembrance Sunday 10am Market Hill, St Ives.

Saturday 15th - Christmas Market and Lights Switch On.

BREAKING NEWS Freedom of the town given to Poppy Man

Centenarian, George 'Ed' Kelly was awarded the Freedom of St Ives yesterday. The Mayor, Julie Kerr, accompanied by Councillor Phil Pope and the Mayor's Chaplain, Mark Amey visited Ed at home and presented him with the award.

Below: Ed pictured with three 'Town Mayors' at VJ Day.



Terrific afternoon of Music on the Waits

The Sunday summer concerts, 'Music on The Waits' continue throughout August and last Sunday, for the first time, FEST presented St Ives Musical Theatre (below).



The choir offers singers at all levels the opportunity to experience the joy of singing original musical theatre arrangements with like-minded musical theatre lovers.

Led by Kate Batter (Phantom of the Opera and Call the Midwife) they meet on Thursday evenings in the Methodist Church. This is a musical theatre choir - only singing songs from musical theatre and is not an amateur dramatic society, so there's no dancing or costumes.

Group singing offers mental health and wellbeing benefits, such as reducing stress and supporting social connection. The Sing Space choirs are a supportive and inclusive community. New pieces are learned each week and it costs £130 for the 12 week term.

Music on The Waits continues with the Country Music band, *Denim Roses*, this Sunday and with the Tenor, *James Schouten*, on August 31st.

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



THE MAYOR'S

SUMMER Party

TICKETS £15

BUY TICKETS AT
[HTTPS://WWW.STIVESTOWNCOUNCIL.GOV.UK/PAY/](https://www.stivestowncouncil.gov.uk/pay/)
 REF: SUMMER PARTY 25 AND YOUR NAME
 OR CONTACT [CIVIC@STIVESTOWNCOUNCIL.GOV.UK](mailto:civic@stivestowncouncil.gov.uk)

Friday 5th September
7'til Late

THE MAYOR OF ST IVES, CLLR JULIE KERR'S CHARITY FUNDRAISING EVENT,
 RAISING MONEY FOR SCHOOLS IN ST IVES

Venue: Outout Nightclub, 29 The Broadway, St Ives, PE27 5BX



Biodiversity for all

The Huntingdon 'Biodiversity For All' team will be running a Bioblitz at Hill Rise Park on Saturday 30th August. Meet the team near the car parking area at Hill Rise Park PE27 6SP, anytime between 10am and 3pm, and help to find out about all the flora and fauna in the park - bring your phone to download the iNaturalist app, or use an old-fashioned identification book.



Is alcohol costing you more than money?

**Meetings at St Ives Free Church,
 Market Hill, St Ives, PE27 5AL**

Tuesdays - St Ives Recovery at 7.45pm

Thursdays - St Ives Daily Reflection at 1pm

01603 621 128

alcoholics-anonymous.org.uk

email: help@aamail.org

All enquiries are treated in the strictest confidence.
 Stock Photo. Posed by model.



**Alcoholics
 Anonymous**



FAMILY RIVER FUN DAY!

The Norris Museum, Holt Island, and St Ives Methodist Church joined forces to create a delightful day of river-themed activities for children on Tuesday, 19th August.

Jill Burt, the Event Organiser at Holt Island, shared her excitement: 'It was a fabulous day. We had over 400 visitors. The weather was perfect for being outdoors. The children loved making cork boats and nature-

themed fridge magnets. A nature trail let children explore the Island and learn about its plants and animals. Thank you to the volunteers, groups and businesses that made the day possible.'



Above:
Julian Limentani introducing children to skulls, nests and more.
Photo credit: Nigel Sprowell.

One of the day's highlights was Marion Leeper, a talented storyteller who enchanted both children and adults with her engaging watery tales and songs at all three venues.

Left:
Holt Island fridge magnets and the Fun Day passport.
Photo credit: Jill Burt

Children eagerly collected ticks and stamps in their Fun Day Passport, and everyone left with a gift as a memento of their wonderful day.

Saturday 6th September
St Ivo Academy, St Ives
2:30pm til 5:30pm (Doors open 2pm)

MUSICAL CHARITY SHOW

to raise money for Dreamflight Childrens Charity

FAMILY FUN

RAFFLE PRIZES

**REFRESHMENTS
CAKES
DRINKS**

only £5




JUSTGIVING HERE:




FEATURING

WICKED

30 minutes version performed by Stagecoach Huntingdon plus Local Young Singer Jess, and more!

www.ticketsource.co.uk/dreamflightcharityevent
<https://www.justgiving.com/page/jess-stanley>

TICKETS HERE:



42 Engineer Regiment (Geographic) will exercise

The Freedom of ST IVES TOWN

Accompanied by the Band of the Welsh Guards



St Ives Town Centre
Saturday 27th September 2025
10:45 - 12:30



There are just three weeks to go before this year's Old Riverport Jazz & Blues Festival, which will see twenty eight concerts over 4 days, all FREE to attend. Not only is it the best value Festival around and once again a double CD or Slim Card USB stick featuring the bands is available, along with the 'must have' T-shirt.



The Double CD has a track from each of the bands taking part. Not only are there 30 very good tracks but it is also a great way to check out which bands you might like to see. For people without a CD player the Slim Card USB stick, with 2 gig of memory, is available so you can download the tracks (mp3 format) to your computer or laptop. They are available from the Corn Exchange, Nelson's Head or Floods Tavern, as are the T-shirts. If you purchase a T-shirt for £10 you can get the CD or USB card for just £5.



Mim Grey

Golden Lion Hotel - Friday 12th September 8.30pm

'Mim is a wonderfully talented singer and an amazing lady', according to Rick Wakeman and 'She's my favourite singer', says Sir Tom Jones.

What better recommendation can one have?

And the praise doesn't stop there ...

'Mim is like a female John Mayer', said legendary Guitarist Robbie McIntosh, and Michael Ball agreed she was, 'The most beautiful voice to come out of the UK in a very long time'. Originally from North London

Mim's brand of soulful Country Pop is a delight to hear. 'She's rather good and rather gorgeous but don't let that influence you' said Robert Elms of BBC Radio London.

THURSDAY 11TH SEPTEMBER

6pm	Golden Lion Hotel	Brooks Williams & Aaron Catlow	UK Americana
6.30pm	Amore Restaurant	Soloman Smith Trio	Folk, Funk, Blues and Jazz
7pm	Floods Tavern	JUDVH	Black Soul and Funk
7.30pm	The Oliver Cromwell	Claude Bourbon	Guitar virtuoso
8.30pm	Nelson's Head	The Lightwaves	A bit of everything ...
10pm	The Corn Exchange	The Houndogs	Rockabilly

FRIDAY 12TH SEPTEMBER

5.30pm	Floods Tavern	GETNOTGOT	Funk, Soul and Jazz
6pm	Slepe Hall Hotel	Greg Brice Duo	Acoustic Blues
7pm	The Corn Exchange	Mr Griff & The Grifters	Dynamic Soul Fusion
7.30pm	Ivy leaf Club	The Scoundrels	Punchy covers
8.30pm	Golden Lion Hotel	Mim Grey	Acclaimed singer songwriter
10pm	The Corn Exchange	Connor Selby	UK's No1 Blues artist

SATURDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER

11am	Sheep Market	The Barefoot Doctors	Electric Blues
12.30pm	Golden Lion Hotel	Will Sketches Band	Jazz, Funk, Fusion
1pm	The Bandstand	We Got That Swing!	Swing Band Jazz
2pm	The Quay	The 29th Funktion	Blues, Funk, R&B
4pm	Floods Tavern	Upwood Ukuleles	Reggae with attitude
5pm	The Corn Exchange	Riverport Dancers	Blues dance lesson
6pm	Golden Lion Hotel	Split Whiskers	Chicago Blues
7pm	The Royal Oak	Dan Walsh	Banjo Virtuoso
8pm	Ivy leaf Club	The Blues Boy Kings	Rocking Blues
10pm	The Corn Exchange	Santiago and the Soulmovers	Rock & Soul

SUNDAY 14TH SEPTEMBER

11.30am	Golden Lion Hotel	Myke Clifford Quartet	Pure Jazz
12.30pm	Ivo Lounge	Django's Tiger	Gypsy Jazz
1.30pm	The Quay	Chris Lord & her Blues Express	Rhythm & Blues
3pm	The Corn Exchange	Fred's House	Award-winning Folk/Rock
3pm	The Bandstand	Jazz Division	Big Band Jazz
4.30pm	Nelson's Head	Jonno's 3 piece Blues Quartet	Blues
6.30pm	The Lounge	The Reavey Brothers	Rock, Blues, Funk and Soul

Set to be the biggest and best yet ...

The Town Team have pushed the boat out a long way this year to make this, our 11th Festival, the best ever. With 13 new acts featuring nationally and internationally recognised artists, the quality of the music will amaze you. Acts such as the astounding Houndogs (Thursday) and Connor Selby (Friday), voted the best Blues Artist at this year's UK Blues Awards, indicate we have some of the very best musicians around. It's not all Jazz & Blues, there is something to suit most music tastes and it's all free.

CHANGE OF ACT- Due to a family issue Jamie Williams is unable to play the final concert at the Lounge. However we are pleased to announce that The Reavey Brothers will bring the festival to a close with their fantastic funky sound.

You don't need to wait quite so long to see two of the artists appearing at the Festival - see below.

29th August Johnny & Ranjan

Chapel Arts
@ the
Corn Exchange



Johnny 'Magic Boy' Wright (Split Whiskers) and Ranjan Vasudevan (The Lightwaves). Two brilliant

musicians, both masters of the guitar, are playing a rare concert together. It's bound to be a memorable evening.

Doors open at 7pm, concert starts 7.30pm
Tickets £10 from the venue or from
www.ticketsource.co.uk/cexeevents

A BUSY TIME FOR ST IVES ROTARY CLUB

In July Club President, Sandra King, spoke to the Hunts Society for the Blind with which the Club has had a long association. Sandra talked about the beginnings of Rotary 120 years ago and of her own introduction to Rotary through a Public Speaking Competition, which subsequently led to a Rotary Youth Exchange with an American girl. She pointed out that Rotary is one of the largest charitable organizations in the world focusing particularly on local communities, developing young people and giving international aid and fostering independence in third world countries. Both men and women are welcomed in Rotary.

Recently the St Ives Club made a donation to St Ives RUFC Girls' Squad to help purchase playing kit. Their Lead Coach, Tony Wadd,



Pictured above: *The Grafham* the climbing wall. carers who are supported by Caring Together, a local charity. These young people (all under 16 and many under 10 years of age) help parents, grandparents and siblings who need support on a daily basis and in doing so sacrifice much of their own spare time.



expressed the thanks of the Rugby Club and said that such donations really help community teams and ensure that girls continue to join the squad and enjoy playing Rugby at St Ives RUFC. (Interested? email : stivesrugby09@gmail.com)

Among activities in recent weeks we helped with marshalling at the St Ives 600 years re-enactment celebration event.

We also hosted a day of fun and adventure at the Grafham Water Centre for a group of young

It was both a privilege and a pleasure for the Rotary Club to give them a little respite and bring something different into their lives. The smiles on their faces at the end of the day revealed just how worthwhile

it had been.

On the 5th August Ben Obese-Jecty MP spoke to the Club about his first year as a new Member of Parliament and the pitfalls he had to avoid with very little advance training.

Does Rotary interest you?

Why not come along to one of our Tuesday evening meetings: 6.15p.m. at the St Ives Golf Club. If interested please contact: mailto:membership@stivesrotarycambs.org.uk to make arrangements.

SACRED HEART RC PARISH HALL AVAILABLE FOR HIRE

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Our parish hall is now available to rent at £20 an hour. An additional fee of £25 will be applied for use of the kitchen.

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e- mail: office@sacredheart-stives.org.uk

Website: www.sacredheart-stives.org.uk/the-church-hall

Sacred Heart St Ives, 19 Needingworth Rd, St Ives, Cambridgeshire, PE27 5JT

Did you know the Mobile Library visits St Ives?

It also visits Hemingford Abbots, Hemingford Grey, Houghton, Wyton and Wyton on the Hill on the 3rd Wednesday in the month (Round H17).

Its timetable is:

Hemingford Abbots : Axe & Compass 10.00 to 10.20am

Hemingford Grey : Church Street 10.30 to 11.10am

Hemingford Grey : Old Pound Close (near School) 11.15am to 11.25am

St Ives : Harvest Court 11.40am to 12.00pm

St Ives : Eden Court 1.00pm to 1.25pm

St Ives : Broadleas Court 1.30pm to 1.50pm

St Ives : Brookway Mobile Home Park 2.00pm to 2.25pm

Houghton : The Green/Horseshoes Inn 2.40pm to 2.55pm

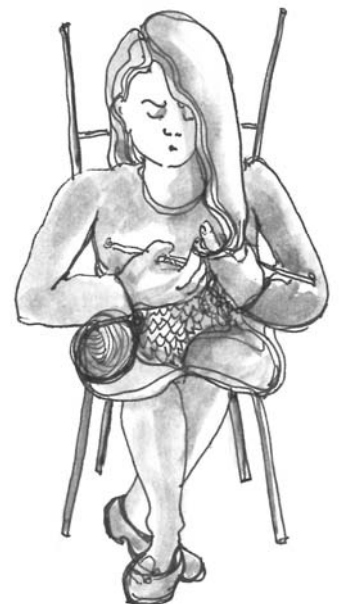
Wyton on the Hill : Cambridge Sq/Churchill Avenue 3.05pm to 3.40pm

Wyton : Pine Hill Park 3.45pm to 4.30pm

As well as a large range of library books, you can get your NHS hearing aid batteries, replacement walking stick ferrules and you can dispose of old household batteries.



Knit & Natter





A Real Pain
Thursday 4 September 2025 at 7:30pm
Doors open 6:30pm. Tickets £7
Director: James Mangold, 141m, Cert: 15

Synopsis: *A Real Pain* is a 2024 comedy-drama directed by *Jesse Eisenberg*, who also stars alongside *Kieran Culkin*. The film follows cousins David and Benji Kaplan on a Jewish heritage tour through Poland to honour their late grandmother. Their contrasting personalities—David's neuroticism and Benji's extroversion—lead to comedic and poignant moments as they confront personal and ancestral pain. The film explores themes of grief, identity, and family, blending humour with emotional depth. Culkin's performance has been widely acclaimed, earning him multiple awards.



The Salt Path
Thursday 2 October 2025 at 7:30pm
Doors open 6:30pm. Tickets £7
Director: Marianne Elliott, 115m, Cert: 12A

Synopsis: Based on the (disputed) memoirs of Rayner Moth this is the story of husband and wife, Raynor (*Gillian Anderson*) and Moth (*Jason Isaacs*) Winn's 630 mile trek along the beautiful but rugged Cornish, Devon and Dorset coastline. After being forcibly removed from their home, they make the desperate decision to keep walking in the hope that, in nature, they will find solace and a sense of acceptance. With depleted resources, a tent and the bare essentials, every step along the path is a testament to their growing strength and determination. *The Salt Path* is a journey that is exhilarating, challenging, and liberating in equal measure. A portrayal of home and how it can be lost and rediscovered in the most unexpected ways.

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

With the possibility of a wine shop re-opening in town, we thought Milly & Tilly might offer some advice on wines available.



Milly and Tilly sniff the summer wine - with the help of our wine correspondent - *The Wine Guy, Alistair*
Taking the Riverporter sniff test this time it is the battle of the Morgons.

In one corner (left) is Famille Vincent, Les Charmes Morgon 2020 (retails at around the £24 mark) and in the other (right) is Maison Riveraine Morgon 2022 - an M&S special retailing at just £14.

'OK let's try these enjoyable summer reds' said Tilly explaining that Morgon is a red wine from the Beaujolais region in France, classified as one of the ten 'crus' of Beaujolais. It is made primarily from the Gamay grape and is known for being fuller-bodied, robust, and more complex than the typical Beaujolais wines. Also that it is usually only 13.5% or 13% ABV, so it's not too heavy.

So Milly sniffed away at the Riveraine and said 'It seems very juicy with a lingering cherry and blackberry whiff.' So they then turned their attention to the Famille Vincent. Now, as Milly said, this should be pretty good as usually 'Les Charmes' on any bottle of wine - and especially from Morgon - signifies a mark of high pedigree designating the origin of the grapes from a vineyard of that name.

Well this one is 'concentrated and packed with fruit, showing vibrant black plum, cherry, and damson' declared Milly 'but they are both very good.'

'OK but who is our winner then' said Tilly, adding 'On the basis of value I will give the Famille Vincent 4/5 and the Maison Riveraine 5/5.'

'So would I' says Milly. Why? 'Because it is so approachable' replied Milly.

What does that mean? *We can drink it now!*



[PS. No dogs were harmed during this event. Oh and by the way Lidl do a Morgon.]



Eco Café on Food

We all have to eat! So how do we feel about what we eat and where it comes from – and who or what else it effects? At August's Eco Café we considered all aspects of this massive subject, from farm to table and inevitably some to the bin. Do schools teach enough cooking from scratch? Some have meat-free days so perhaps we should at home, too. Of course, it all begins on the farm or grown at home so we need to take care not to damage the environment of the soil and the wildlife around - and perhaps decide only to buy in season and avoid those mange tout being flown in from the other side of the world.

Thankfully supermarkets are trying to pass on unsold food these days but should we do away with Best Before dates; we didn't have them years ago and how often were we ill? Yet some people stick rigidly to them and throw away good food.

Then there's the packaging; it has improved and is mostly recyclable but is much of it simply to make it easier at the checkout?

We discussed local initiatives, wondering what difference the Council's Food Waste Bins will make from next spring; perhaps that will be a good time for us all to make an effort to reduce all waste.

Next month, 13 September, we have a speaker to talk on Climate Anxiety.

All welcome to come along to the Library between 10 & 12 noon. stivesecocafe@gmail.com



REPAIR CAFE

4th OCTOBER

1– 4 pm

CALLING ALL BROKEN HOUSEHOLD ITEMS!

Do you want to escape a wretched fate, cast into the gaping maw of county Landfill? Here's how:- Get yourselves along to St Ives Methodist Church on Saturday 4th October 1-4pm where experienced volunteer repairers will give you a new lease of life. And, what's more, educate your owners who will watch your repair, fortified by tea and home-made cake in our friendly cafe.

Book a slot on stivesrepaircafe@gmail.com or turn up on the day. We're ready for you at the **ST IVES REPAIR CAFE!**

Enjoy the last days of summer with a trip to the coast, as reported in *The Riverporter*

Don't forget for the next two weekends and on Bank Holiday Monday you can visit Hunstanton on Whppet's 101 service. The coach will pick up from St Ives bus station at 08:30 and return you at 17:40, giving you over 5 hours on the coast.

Fares are just £14 return for adults.
 (£12 with a bus pass and for children 5-15yrs).





Milly has gone on holiday so Tilly is now in charge.



having your say ...

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

The Riverporter

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

OTHER NEWS

250 notices issued in the first week

Huntingdonshire District Council has issued more than 250 warning notices in its first week of enforcing parking restrictions. As we mentioned in our last issue, Civil Parking Enforcement (CPE) is now in operation across the District with officers visiting 90 per cent of wards. The change follows formal approval from the Minister for the Future of Roads, Lilian Greenwood MP, earlier this year and Penalty Charge Notices (PCNs) were issued from August 4.



Offences that can now result in a PCN include parking on double yellow lines, using disabled bays without a blue badge and obstructive parking in restricted areas.

CPE does not create new parking rules but enables local authority officers to enforce the restrictions already in place. Previously, routine parking enforcement was handled by the police who will continue to address serious breaches such as parking on pedestrian crossings.

Our Town Mayor and District Councillor, Julie Kerr, left, said 'Our priority is to keep streets safer, ease congestion, and make sure parking is fair for everyone. We've already had residents thank our enforcement officers for their work as a result.'

Broadway Cellars submit application

A licencing application has been submitted to HDC by Stephen James Wines Limited, trading as Broadway Cellars Limited for a licence to open a wine shop and wine bar and for an alcohol licence, to be served from 10am until 11pm from Monday-Sunday with opening hours set to be 9am until 11pm every day of the week. The Wadsworth shop closed in January 2024 after more than 150 years.



Interesting figures from Barclays

In a letter to our MP Ben Obese-Jecty, regarding the closure of the St Ives Local in the Corn Exchange, Alexandra Pitchford, Head of Barclays Regional Corporate Relations, said 'Like other businesses, Barclays is not immune to changes in consumer behaviour. Specifically, for St Ives these changes include:

- 68% of people who use this service also bank with us by app, online and by phone.
- 54% of customers using this service also visit our branches.
- 13 people use this service regularly as the only way to speak to us.

'We recognise that face-to-face banking continues to play an important role for some of our customers in St Ives. The Barclays branch in Huntingdon - located less than five miles from St Ives - continues to serve the community'.

Could it be that only 13 people use the service as it only gives advice and doesn't include transactional banking?

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,

**Ref: the 600 celebrations and
The Riverporter coverage**

Hi, I just must say what a great issue [Riverporter 190] on the 600 year anniversary event. Super photos and reproduction and it will go into my St Ives history archive.

I loved every bit of the event except getting wet at the Saturday battle!

Must share this I spoke to a Parliamentarian at the gun display tent and he had a South African accent.

I mentioned to a 'wench' I didn't think we had found South Africa in those days?

She replied we have all nationalities in the society and I am from Norway! Amused by this I spoke to another saying it must be great to be here in Cromwell country have you been to his museum and birth place? He had no idea what I was talking about as he lives in Gloucester. He said I wondered why the royalists were booed, normally we are cheered.

Just a thought for Tilly to discuss How about the town council putting a [Camera] at the busway tank trap? That way they could charge the idiots with dangerous driving etc. and help fund local events. No chance of police around so lucky for perpetrators.

Last week I saw a car just stop before trap so we only see them in it. Many more get away with it, no bus being followed, no rhyme or reason to it, no excuses can be made. Expensive repair as no insurance would pay out for illegal driving. It's continues to be one of the Fens great mysteries, maybe someone could write a book about it?

As usual well done for your continual good work producing the Riverporter.

Anonymous fan

Dear Milly and Tilly,

**Ref: Royal Air Forces Association
Battle of Britain wings concert**

The Huntingdonshire Concert band is performing a music concert in aid of the RAFA Huntingdon and District branch "wings appeal" on the 13th September in the Free Church St Ives. We are a forces charity supporting the RAF family, serving and veterans. We have held a concert there every year, apart from covid since 1994.

Doors open at 6.45pm concert starts at 07.30pm. The Branch Committee hope you will come along, enjoy the music and support the charity that supports the RAF family. Tickets are £15, available in the Free Church office or from ticketsource.co.uk/rafa-wings-concert.

Dear Milly and Tilly,

CENTRE PLAYERS

SUPPORT MOTOR NEURONE DISEASE

The Centre Theatre Players are busy preparing for their forthcoming Grand Charity Cabaret 'ONE NIGHT ONLY' which they will be presenting in the Burgess Hall, One Leisure, St Ives on Saturday 20th September at 7.30pm.

The evening is a variety of music, comedy and dance featuring several of The Players regular performers together with the Vicky Grant dancers and a few surprise guests.

This year The Players have nominated to support the Motor Neurone Disease Association. This charity focuses on access to care, research and campaigning for those people living with or affected by this terrible disease.

To date The Players have raised well in excess of £100,000 from their Charity evenings with nearly 50 different charities benefitting from their efforts.

Tickets are £12 available now on line www.ticketsource.co.uk/starliteroadshow or telephone 01480 756555 between 6pm and 9pm weekdays.

Dick

fen mobility centre



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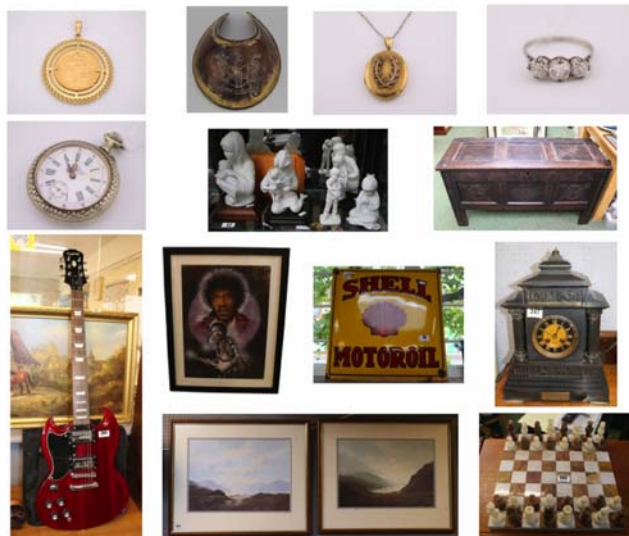
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Next auction: **Saturday 23rd August**

Antiques & Interiors Sale to include Ceramics, Collectables, Silver, Jewellery and Furniture - 689 Lots



HYPERION



Here is a guide on the ways you can bid on our lots from our Antiques and Interiors auctions:

In Person

You can attend our auction, we are open from 9am on the morning of the auction for viewing and the auction starts at 10am. Please keep your bidder's number (paddle) and show it to the auctioneer if a lot is knocked down to you.

By Telephone

We accept telephone bids on items valued at over £100, we can accept bids up to and including the start of the Auction

By Commission Bid

You can create an online account via our website and login to place bids directly from our online auction catalogues.

Place the maximum amount you are willing to bid and we will bid on your behalf

Live Online Bidding

You can register to bid live with easyliveauction.com or the-saleroom.com. for bidders unable to attend but would like the experience of live bidding

To bid online you will need to register for the auction at:

the-saleroom.com or easyliveauction.com

Where? Station Road, St Ives, PE27 5BH

When? Start time: 10am

Our website: www.hyperionauctions.co.uk

Contact us: 01480 464140 or info@hyperionauctions.co.uk

Once registered you can watch the auction in real time, simply click the bid button to place a bid.