

The Riverporter

PLEASE READ AND PASS ON

COVERING THE NEWS FOR ST IVES AND AROUND

Issue 208: 8 May 2026

A TOTALLY INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER • UNCONNECTED WITH ANY GROUP OR ORGANISATION

Ron has been writing again . . .

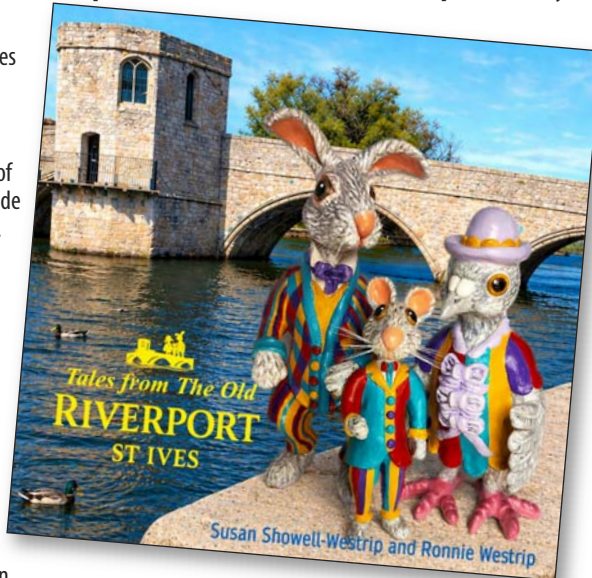
This time with Sue, his wife, they have created a book of children's bedtime stories. *Tales from The Old Riverport* is based on characters, sculpted in clay who live in St Ives.

The beautifully illustrated book features stories about the adventures of three whimsical friends that live in real locations in The Old Riverport.

Over the years Susan has created lots of strange and wonderful characters, made of air dried clay, in her studio at home. Using acrylic paints and after many hours of patient skilled work these creatures are brought to life and find their own personality in the process. Ron, who published a book about his adventures as a Fleet Street photographer last month, used these skills to photograph Sue's characters and write the stories.

The end result is a charming book that will delight young children. For Riverporter readers even Erik makes an appearance.

You can see and buy the book and copies of Ron's autobiography at Sunday's Flea on The Quay, which is on from 10am until 1pm.



BREAKING NEWS A man will appear in court tomorrow charged in connection with burglaries at Chloe's Jewellers in St Ives and Burwell Post Office. He has also been charged with the attempted burglary of Stow-cum-Quy Post Office on 1 May.

The Riverporter takes a short break

The next issue of *The Riverporter* will appear in three weeks (Friday 29th May) rather than in the usual two weeks, as the Editor is having a short holiday.

Readers should note that we now produce twice as many printed copies and hopefully you can get a copy more easily. They can be picked up from, TG Jones,

Mace, The Corn Exchange, the Library and many other places in the town centre. Also from Costcutter and the Post Office Ramsey Rd, Premier in Green How, the Coop, Baba News on Needingworth Rd, Morrisons Garage and at Houghton's community shop. Plus the on-line issue is also available in colour, see below.

Piano in the Chapel proves popular

The Town Team working with music and book publisher AkcentMedia have installed a piano in the Bridge Chapel and on Mayday 17 people came to play it. Dan Ecclestone (right) started off proceedings with players, including 11 year-old Christian from St Ives and 12 year-old Elena from Godmanchester, coming from far and wide, including Kent, March, Bedford, Harlow, Hemel Hempstead and Rushden to entertain visitors, many who stopped to sing along.

The piano will be there until 4pm on Sunday, so there is still plenty of chance to come and play it. We hope that the marvellous Mark Burton and Karen England may drop by on Friday afternoon and on Saturday evening young saxophonist Stan Wright will perform. On Sunday afternoon Pat and Tony from March will return to play songs of the 1940's, possibly in costume, so why not come and enjoy a sing along.



DIARY OF EVENTS

Please email: editor@theriverporter.uk

MAY

- Wednesday 13th - Mayor Making** - St Ives Corn Exchange 7.15pm.
- Friday 15th - Civic Society - The Life of Lord Fairhaven:** 7.30pm at the Free Church. Members free, visitors £3.
- Saturday 16th - St Ives Community Information Day** - see advert.
- Friday 29th - Lunch Time Concert** 'The Two Richards' Violin and Piano - St Ives Free Church 1pm.

Friday 29 May - A fundraising concert for The Old Riverport Jazz & Blues Festival with the amazing **Houndogs**

This is no tribute band they are the best Rock & Roll Band around and bound to set the place on fire. **8pm St Ives Corn Exchange.** Tickets from the venue. or from www.ticketsource.co.uk/cxevents.



HELP US TO KEEP OUR FESTIVAL FREE TO ATTEND

JUNE

- Wednesday 3rd - Engage Talk: Why On Earth Would A Mayor Jump Out Of A Plane And Other Stories** by Julie Kerr - 2pm, St Ives Library (donations welcome)
- Saturday 6th - Repair Café** - Methodist Church 1pm to 4pm.
- Saturday 6th/14th - St Ives Great Big Green Week** - 30 events see all at: <https://www.stivesinbloom.co.uk/st-ives-green-week/>
- Sunday 21st - Picnic in the Park** - 12 noon to 6 pm in Warners Park St Ives. With music and activities for children - Beer tent - Food stalls.

JULY

- Every Sunday - Music on the Waits** - The Bandstand 2 pm to 4 pm
- Saturday 11th - Songs from a Big Country** - a concert by the Meridian Singers at St Mary's Church Bluntisham at 7pm. Tickets £10.
- Saturday 11th/12th - St Ives Carnival and Music Festival.**

A special concert for **ST IVES GREAT BIG GREEN WEEK**



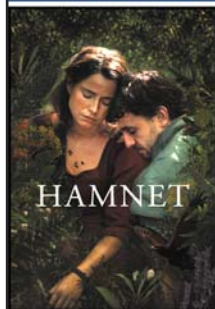
The Native Oysters Band

The Town Team are delighted to present this New Orleans-style marching band. Originally a community street band formed for the Whitstable Oyster Festival parade, *The Native Oysters* have evolved into a funky, electrifying experience with tight, powerful horn arrangements and creamy, soulful vocals.

This FREE to attend concert has been arranged to start St Ives' Great Big Green Week in style. **SATURDAY 6TH JUNE - 2PM AT THE BANDSTAND**
In the case of wet weather the concert will take place in St Ives Free Church, Market Hill.
A TOWN TEAM EVENT - DETAILS AT WWW.STIVESCAMBRIDGESHIRE.CO.UK

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

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Hamnet
Thursday 4 June 2026 at 7:30pm, Tickets £7
Director: Chloé Zhao (2025), 126m, Cert: 12

Hamnet is a fictionalised historical drama, based on Maggie O'Farrell's 2020 novel Hamnet, directed by Chloé Zhao, exploring the profound grief of William Shakespeare (Paul Mesca) and his wife Agnes (Jessie Buckley) following the death of their 11-year-old son, Hamnet, from the Black Plague in 1590s Warwickshire. The film focuses on their different ways of coping—Agnes through intense, earthy mourning and William through creative escape in London—eventually inspiring the writing of his masterpiece, Hamlet.



One Battle After Another
Thursday 2 July 2026 at 7:30pm, Tickets £7
Director: Paul Anderson (2025), 115m, Cert: 15

One Battle After Another, directed by Paul Thomas Anderson, is a dark satire following Bob (Leonardo DiCaprio), a former left-wing revolutionary living quietly until his daughter is kidnapped. Set in a fascist, dystopian America, Bob is hunted by "Lockjaw" (Sean Penn), a manic military man obsessed with Bob's former partner. The film is a chaotic, comedic thriller exploring generational trauma, the failure of 60s radicalism, and surveillance culture as Bob attempts to rescue his daughter.

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



FEST IS A NOT FOR PROFIT VOLUNTARY GROUP - RUNNING EVENTS FOR THE PEOPLE OF ST IVES

FEST IN THE PICNIC PARK

Beer Tent
Food Stalls
Family Fun
Live Music

St Dartford Warner's Park, St Ives
Sunday 21st June 2026
12noon - 6pm

Also featuring:
So 80s & Denim Roses

FREE EVENT

With thanks to our sponsors continued support!

Joyrider

FEST St Ives www.stivesfest.org.uk

Flea on the Quay

FIRST ONE THIS SUNDAY

ENJOY BREAKFAST AT THE FLEA ON THE QUAY

Get 20% off bacon or sausage bap and coffee at

THE TAPROOM

Visit the Town Team stall and collect your voucher to take advantage of this special offer.

The market is on from 10am to 1pm on 2nd & 4th Sunday of each month - May to September.

To reserve a table for just £5 please call Sandra on 07913 346845 or email: townteam@stivescambridgeshire.co.uk

COLLECTABLES • CURIOUS ITEMS • CRAFTS • OBJETS D'ART • ANTIQUES

Ladybird visits The Quay

The Ladybird Boat based at Hartford Marina visited St Ives on Wednesday. Accommodating up to 20 passengers the boat has kitchen and wheelchair accessible toilet facilities and the open foredeck enables passengers to enjoy to the full the scenery and wildlife on the river.

If you require more information about booking a trip go to: bookings@ladybirdboat.org.uk



ADVERTORIAL

Keeping in touch is so important

At Care UK's Field Lodge in St Ives, every resident is supported to live their life the way they choose. Our experienced team takes pride in offering quality residential, nursing, dementia and respite care.

Nora, a Care UK care home resident, shares how the team goes above and beyond to help keep her connected with loved ones.

'It keeps me going'

At Care UK, we understand how important it is to keep in contact with family and friends as we age. We're dedicated to helping residents stay connected to their community and the people they care about. For Nora, speaking to family and friends regularly is important for her wellbeing. 'It just keeps me going, I love it,' she says. Every night after supper, she phones her loved ones to tell them what she's been up to and ask how everyone is.

'One day I didn't have a phone, and I was completely lost!' Nora enjoys the convenience of having a phone in her room. 'I remember years ago you had to go into the village to a red box to phone!' she reminisces.

'I couldn't wish for better'

Moving into a care home is a big step, so we support residents to choose how they'd like to keep in touch with their loved ones. We also keep relatives informed through the Relish app, which is used by homes to provide an additional channel of



care UK

communication. Nora, whose son uses Relish, says, 'Everything like that keeps him in touch.'

Celebrating special moments is another way homes encourage families to get involved.

Nora recently celebrated her 100th birthday, and the care home hosted a party. 'It was such a shock!' Family joined for a day of music and afternoon tea. 'Everything went very well. I couldn't wish for better, really,' she says.

The care home also hosted her son and daughter-in-law for a Christmas meal last year.

'We had a starter and a main meal. It was all very nice, and well presented. This year, they're already fully booked'

Trust us to care

Our team works hard to ensure residents can keep connected with their loved ones. We help families and friends to continue sharing special experiences whether that's in the home, through special trips and outings, or maximising technology so that distance is no longer an issue.

Care UK is a leading independent care home provider with some of the highest quality ratings of the UK's larger care providers, and over 40 years' experience of delivering high-quality care to older people.

For more information about Field Lodge in St Ives, call 01480 710673 or visit careuk.com/field-lodge London Road, St Ives Cambridgeshire PE27 5EX



Jeffery, our new News Hound. He's barking mad!



having your say . . .

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

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 nor condemns the opinions expressed.

Dear Milly & Tilly,
Having seen the article in your last issue (RP207) **Ryan Fuller finds a suitable home.** In case you're wondering, you might like to know what he's been up to since leaving your area.

It seems that whilst he was still a Councillor for St Ives North & Wyton, he was also Clerk for Kents Hill & Monkston Parish Council for almost six months, having been appointed in Nov 2024.

He had applied for the position of Clerk at Whitby Town Council in August of that year but failed and went to Kents Hill and Monkston instead.

The successful applicant to the position in Whitby didn't last a year and Mr Fuller reapplied when it became vacant again. This time he was successful and, having secured the post in Dec 2025, quit Kents Hill & Monkston Parish with indecent haste.

His brief stay at Kents Hill and Monkston Parish managed to generate some ill-will and at least 3 grievances.

When it came to tidying up the loose ends on his leaving, the Council minuted its disappointment that he had not advised them that he had been offered another position and noted that in making their final payment *'the Council does not make any admission of liability and no payments were to be made beyond contractual terms.'*
Name withheld



The Riverporter

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

OTHER NEWS

Father and son visit St Ives after cycling around the world

George and Josh Kohler set off from Norfolk to pedal the planet at the end of March 2025, and returned last Saturday. George grew up in St Ives and still has family in the area, so the pair stayed in the town for a night before returning to Norwich.

They cycled through more than 30 countries, including Turkey, China, Vietnam, Australia and Argentina, tackling some of the toughest terrain on Earth and along the way, raised £66,000 for UNICEF and breaking three world records.



Blooming Neighbourhood Watch . . .



This month's newsletter includes new powers to tackle antisocial behaviour and how to **Say it with flowers!** The report includes the following article... *Want to say a big thank you to a local hero, friend, neighbour, or community champion? We've partnered with Flower Station to celebrate the spirit of community with a stunning Neighbourhood Watch bouquet, perfectly reflecting our iconic brand colours. Flower Station will donate 10% of the sale proceeds to supporting community grants. Check out the Neighbourhood Watch shop to find out more.*

New Commander for police

Paul Rogerson, who has been a police officer for 24 years here in Cambridgeshire, has become South Area Commander. *'I'm committed to making a positive and lasting difference by ensuring policing remains focused on the needs of local communities. I want to be visible, accessible and responsive, and I'm committed to listening to residents and addressing the issues that matter most where they live,'* he has stated.



SATURDAY 6TH JUNE 2026

ST IVES REPAIR CAFÉ

WHERE?

St Ives Methodist Church
The Waits, PE27 5BY • 1pm - 4pm

WHAT?

A regular pop up to repair loved items, bikes, jewellery, electricals, tool sharpening, sewing repairs, ceramics, electronics and much more...
Repaired by expert volunteers.

HOW?

Book a slot:
Email: stivesrepaircafe@gmail.com
or Voicemail: 07377014401
You can bring items on the day for assessment.
Donations Welcome Cash or Card



LEARN NEW SKILLS

FIX IT! KEEP IT!

Enjoy drinks and home made cake..



A plea from the organisers about the Chapel concerts

It is important that the people who have booked seats should attend the concerts. If you decide not to attend you should let Ticketsource know at least a week before so your seats can be re-allocated.

The concerts (see below) taking place at 7.30pm in the Chapel are almost fully subscribed. Due to limited space tickets must be booked via www.ticketsource.co.uk/eventsstives, even though they are free to attend.

Saturday 13th June - Les Moutons Noirs Choir 15th century music.

Friday 26th June - Dan Ecclestone plays Radiohead.

Friday 17th July - Kaveri Blues - a Hindustani classical music concert.

Friday 31st July - Picking with a heart - David Youngs guitar concert.

Friday 28th August - An evening of Percussion with Derek Scurl on drums and Vibraphone.

THE GREAT BIG GREEN WEEK

6th - 14th June

Together for good

Make time for NATURE and COMMUNITY by joining in with our events during the St Ives Great Big Green Week.

quizzes

guided walks

repairs

music



bikes

arts and

dance

crafts

refreshments



eco café



Discover what St Ives has to offer

ST IVES COMMUNITY INFORMATION DAY

Saturday 16th May 2026

10am to 1pm

at St Ives Corn Exchange and Free Church

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

Everyone welcome.

40+ Organisations Represented

Talks timetable coming soon!

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



SPECIALIST NEURO-PHYSIO

Contact: Amy Rusby

amyrusby696@gmail.com

07741 908830

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ANY NEUROLOGICAL DIAGNOSIS

ALL AGES

£128 per session

H HYPERION HOME & ANTIQUES CENTRE H

HOW TO FIND US

BY BUS: WE ARE LOCATED RIGHT NEXT TO 2 BUS STOPS IN THE CENTRE OF ST IVES

BY CAR: WE RECOMMEND USING THE NEARBY WAITROSE CAR PARK BEHIND US

WE HAVE OVER 30 EXPERIENCED DEALERS WITH YEARS OF KNOWLEDGE IN SILVER, JEWELLERY, FINE ART, ALONGSIDE MANY MORE INTERESTING ANTIQUITIES & COLLECTABLES.

WITH ITS WIDE-RANGING SELECTION AND EVER-CHANGING DISPLAYS, HYPERION HOME AND ANTIQUES CENTRE PROMISES TO BOTH SURPRISE AND DELIGHT — COME AND SEE FOR YOURSELF!

NESTLED IN THE HEART OF ST IVES' HISTORIC AND BUSTLING MARKET SQUARE, HYPERION HOME AND ANTIQUES CENTRE EXTENDS A WARM WELCOME TO EVERY VISITOR.



STATION ROAD, ST IVES, CAMBS, PE27 5BH

OPENING HOURS:

H MONDAY-SATURDAY 9:30AM-5PM SUNDAY: 10AM-4PM

CALL US: 01480 469101

H