

A TOTALLY INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER • UNCONNECTED WITH ANY GROUP OR ORGANISATION

Two week Iran ceasefire agreed or is it?

On Wednesday when I started writing this week's *Riverporter* the USA and Iran had just agreed to a two week ceasefire. This morning just 24 hours later that is in doubt.

Of course this isn't St Ives focused news, which we normally confine our reports to, but it affects us here just as much as anywhere else in the world.

When the next *Riverporter* comes out who knows what the news will be? Trump seems to relish affecting the whole world despite

his 'America First' policies and yet he cannot quite control everything that he suggests he can. Israel has said the ceasefire doesn't apply to them in Lebanon.

So like every other country we look on, probably with fingers crossed, in the hope that what eventually transpires is in everyone's best

interest, knowing that things will never quite go back to where they were just a few months ago.

I think we can guarantee that whatever the outcome Trump will continue to claim it as the biggest and best ceasefire ever and Hegseth that it is a military victory with a capital V.

Survey supports a film festival

As part of the town's submission for UK Town of Culture a survey of 466 people showed overwhelming support (84%) for the idea of an Old Riverport Film Festival.

86% who responded attend cultural events in town and 93% selected the riverside as 'what they love most about St Ives'.

In its submission, the Town Team put forward a year-long plan involving workshops from professionals on all aspects of film making, specifically aimed at

young filmmakers from the town's schools and youth groups - the core opportunity being creative participation with professional standards and real outcomes - culminating in a public premiere at the festival itself.

If the bid is successful, the festival will also invite contributions from towns throughout the UK.

The theme would focus on the people who have shaped their communities. Alongside the film festival will be a son et lumière on

the mediaeval bridge, featuring local musicians, an illuminated boat parade and the Chamber Orchestra of St Ives performing a specially written score by an internationally renowned composer. All topped off with a spectacular firework display.

An executive summary of the survey responses is available on the St Ives Town Council website at www.stivestowncouncil.gov.uk.

230 towns entered the competition but as yet they are not all known.



Good Friday Walk of Witness

On Good Friday morning, Christians from Churches Together in St Ives met for the Good Friday Walk of Witness, returning after a two year hiatus. Starting at All Saints, they processed to the town centre for an act of public worship outside the Free Church, declaring the love of God for the world on this solemn day in the Christian calendar. Fr Trindade, David and Jason from the Sacred Heart Catholic Church were thanked for making the arrangements to allow this event to take place again, and also Somersham Town Band for once again accompanying the walk.

DIARY OF EVENTS

Please email: editor@theriverporter.uk

APRIL

Friday 17th - Civic Society - Mayflower Pilgrims & Links with Fenstanton. A presentation by Adrian Moss about Fenstanton's links with the Mayflower. 7.30pm, Free Church. Members free, visitors £3.

Saturday 18th - Great Ouse Valley Trust AGM. Big skies-bold future introduced by Ben Obese-Jecty MP at Hemingford Abbots Village Hall at 11am. Coffee will be available from 10.30am.

Saturday 18th - St Ives Corn Exchange - Stand Up Comedy with Arthur Smith 7.30pm. In association with Jubado's Comedy. Tickets £18.

Friday 24th - Lunch Time Concert with James Stygall Trumpet and Piano - St Ives Free Church 1pm.

Friday 24th - Chapel Arts Concert - Lift Music Collective. see p2.

MAY

Saturday 2nd - Silent Disco - 8pm to Midnight St Ives Corn Exchange featuring Motown, Disco, Rock playlists from DJ Michael. Tickets £7

Monday 4th/10th - Open Piano at the Chapel - Ever wanted to play music in our Bridge Chapel? Now is your chance. see page 2.

Sunday 10th - Flea on The Quay - 10am to 1pm. To book a table (just £5) call Sandra on 07913 346845.

Wednesday 13th - Mayor Making - St Ives Corn Exchange 7.15pm.

Friday 15th - The Pianoman 8pm Riverport Café Bar Tickets £10.

Friday 15th - Civic Society - The Life of Lord Fairhaven: 7.30pm at the Free Church. Members free, visitors £3.

Sunday 24th - Flea on The Quay - 10am to 1pm.

Friday 29th - Lunch Time Concert 'The Two Richards' Violin and Piano - St Ives Free Church 1pm.

Friday 29 May - The Houndogs - Fundraising concert for The Old Riverport Jazz & Blues Festival. 8pm St Ives Corn Exchange. Tickets £15 from the venue or www.ticketsource.co.uk/cexevents.

Saturday 30th - FourTissimo at 7pm St Ives Free Church. 4 talented performers whose repertoire ranges from Opera to Starlight Express.

JUNE

Saturday 6th/13th - St Ives Great Big Green Week - starts with a free concert at 2pm at the bandstand with The Native Oysters Band.

A SERIES OF CONCERTS CELEBRATING THE 600TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST IVES BRIDGE CHAPEL

These free concerts take place at 7.30pm in the Chapel. Due to limited space tickets must be booked: www.ticketsource.co.uk/eventsstives

JUNE

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

Friday 26th - Dan Ecclestone plays Radiohead. Pianist Dan accompanied by friends, will also play tracks from his new album.

JULY

Friday 17th - Kaveri Blues - a Hindustani classical music concert with Dr Ranjan Vasudevan on specially tuned guitar (sitar), Vivek Dinesh on violin and Abhiram Sahathevan on Mridangam (drum).

Friday 31st - Picking with a heart - Percussive acoustic fingerstyle guitar concert with David Youngs.

AUGUST

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

Slimming World



ST IVES
The Burleigh Hill Centre, PE27 3ER

Tuesdays 9.30 am
Thursdays 5.30 pm
Fridays 9.30 am
Saturdays 8.00 am & 9.30 am

feel *real* good

CALLING STALL HOLDERS

Do you want to sell your goods or unwanted items?



The Town Team will be running a Flea Market at The Quay on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month from 10am to 1pm - May to September, starting on 10th May.

If you wish to have a stall for just £5 contact Sandra on **07913 346845** or email: townteam@stivescambridgeshire.co.uk

COLLECTABLES • CURIOUS
CRAFTS • OBJETS D'ART
BRIC A BRAC • ANTIQUES

Open Piano at The Chapel

Ever wanted to play music in our Bridge Chapel? Now is your chance.

As part of the 600 celebrations of the Chapel the Town Team and AkcentMedia are installing a piano in the chapel for anyone to play from 4th to 10th May.

Come and see Dan Ecclestone start the proceedings off by playing the piano at 10am on Mayday (4th May)

- It's your chance to play in a beautiful setting
- Bringing people together for a good ol' fashioned sing song around the piano
- And bring a little music to the quay side.

The chapel will be open everyday for a week and players (with or without accompanying instruments) are welcome. If the piano is being played, when you arrive please respect the vibe and wait for your turn. There may be some occasional filming & broadcasting by the Town Team but you can ask for that to be switched off during your set. We know the piano isn't concert pitch!!!

TIMETABLE: Monday 4th May (Mayday) - 10am to 4pm.
Tuesday 5th May to Friday 8th May - 11am to 2pm and 3pm to 7pm.
Saturday 9th May - 10am to 8pm. Sunday 10th May - 10am to 4pm.
TIMES MAY BE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

For details email: townteam@stivescambridgeshire.co.uk

A NEW FLOWERBED FOR THE WAITS

Have you noticed the new planting on The Waits, in the flowerbed nearest the Parish Church? The dark shrubs have gone, replaced by a bright design based around roses, lavenders and hydrangeas.

St Ives in Bloom, working together with the Town Council, cleared the bed; then the volunteers planted the flowering shrubs according to a design by new volunteers Jane Southworth (left) and Jane Halliday (right).

Would you like to brighten up the area near where you live or get together with your neighbours to plant daffodils in the verge? If so contact [St Ives in Bloom on siibinfo@gmail.com](mailto:siibinfo@gmail.com) with your ideas.



ADVERTORIAL

Quality dementia care, led by experts

At Care UK's Field Lodge, we're passionate about supporting people to live well with dementia. With expert-backed training and luxurious, purpose-built facilities, you can trust us to care for your loved one.

When we welcome a new resident to Field Lodge, our team gets to know them well so that we can tailor care to suit their individual needs. Regular care plan reviews ensure that everyone is supported at every stage of their dementia journey. It's all part of our person-centred approach.

Care you can depend on

We work closely with academic partners and dementia experts to ensure that we stay up-to-date with the latest approaches to dementia care. The Association of Dementia Studies also provides bespoke training for our teams. This collaboration means our care and practice is supported and informed by evidence, so that you can be assured your loved one receives the very best, compassionate care.

At Field Lodge our Lifestyle team delivers meaningful activities, designed to support residents to live fulfilling lives, including gardening, crafting, baking and reminiscence.

We also run a monthly Dementia support group aimed at people living with dementia or supporting a loved one who is, you will get the opportunity to meet other members of your local community and make new friends over a cuppa and home-baked treats in our welcoming café.

Please get in touch for upcoming dates or check our website for the latest information.

Our Namaste care sessions take a sensory approach to dementia care that can be particularly beneficial for people living with advanced dementia. Set in a calming, softly lit environment, these sessions involve music therapy, hand or foot massages and relaxing aromas.

Safe, supportive, purpose-built facilities

We understand that moving somewhere new can feel overwhelming, but our purpose-built home has been carefully designed to meet the latest dementia standards, creating an environment that is safe, welcoming and easily understood. Everything from colour schemes, signage and furniture to the design of our crockery, has been carefully chosen to support residents to be as independent as possible.

Trusted to care

Field Lodge care home in St Ives is part of Care UK, the country's most-awarded large care provider. We've been delivering high-quality, person-centred care for over 40 years. That's why over 10,000 families trust us to care for their loved ones.

To find out more call: 01480 710673 or visit: careuk.com/field-lodge London Road, St Ives PE27 5EX



Intimate concerts by excellent musicians

FRIDAY 24TH APRIL

LIFT MUSIC COLLECTIVE



Featuring violin, cello, accordion, piano, percussion and tuned percussion they play new arrangements of 'pop' music from the 70s and 80s, re-imagined as soundtracks of magic and wonder. Intertwined with classics from U2, Talking Heads, Stranglers and more, are new arrangements of movie themes: Cinema Paradiso and Amelie among them.

7.30pm in The Riverport Bar, St Ives Corn Exchange. Tickets just £10 from the venue or www.ticketsource.co.uk/cexevents





Jeffery, our new News Hound. Still in training.



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,

As a local councillor, I just wanted to add a bit of context to Anthony's comments about by-elections. (RP205). Holding onto a ward or a seat in parliament, isn't simply down to the individual councillor or MP. There are clear rules and standards that everyone in public office is expected to follow. The Nolan Principles set out these expectations, focusing on things like selflessness, integrity, accountability, and honesty. In terms of MPs, a by-election is usually only triggered in specific circumstances, such as resignation, death, a serious criminal conviction, a successful recall petition, bankruptcy, or disqualification. For local councillors, similar rules apply. A by-election would normally only happen if there is a

resignation, death, failure to meet attendance requirements, or disqualification (for example, due to employment restrictions). It's also worth noting that if a councillor changes political party during their term, they are not required to resign their seat. On top of that, by-elections are expensive and time-consuming to organise, so if there are scheduled elections coming up soon, it often makes sense to wait. With local elections just around the corner, all candidates will shortly be putting themselves forward to residents for scrutiny on their track record and possible re-election. That's democracy in action. I hope that helps clarify things a bit. Best wishes **Cath Gleadow**



Morris Dancers brighten up Easter Saturday

Fenstanton Morris, Ely & Littleport Riot and Sutton Masque Morris dancers joined forces to bring colour music and dance to a busy Saturday in St Ives.



The Riverporter

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

OTHER NEWS

St Ives Bowls Club - Taster Day

New and existing bowlers can come and learn more about outdoor bowls and enquire about joining the club. Sunday April 26 10am-4pm. Priory Road St Ives PE275BB.

Old Riverport Beer Festival a success



Papworth Brewery, organisers of the Easter weekend Beer Festival in the Corn Exchange, are looking to repeat the event next year. Below: Ben Obese-Jecty visited the festival.



Break in at Royal Oak

Police were called to the Royal Oak pub on Crown Street in at around 8.50pm on Monday, April 6, following reports of a break-in. Alcohol, orange juice, crisps and a till were among the items stolen. Two men have been arrested and charged. Darren Scales, of Norwich, has been charged with two counts of burglary. Jack Simmons, of Rectory Lane, Somersham, has been charged with burglary and criminal damage. They were both set to appear at Peterborough court on Wednesday, April 8.



Noble's Field Trust Committee AGM

Noble's Field, the four-acre river meadow held in trust for the recreation of the people of St Ives and surrounding parishes, just off the Thicket path, is holding its AGM at the Rowing Club, 25, The Broadway, St Ives at 7.30pm, Monday 20th April.



Right: Rowing Club members at 6.30pm on Wednesday 8 April enjoying 23 degree heat.

Sponsorship required for under 8's

Ben Peach is building a brand new Under 8's football team at St Ives Town FC for the 2026/27 season, and is looking for a local business to come on board as kit & equipment sponsor. The squad of 10 to 14 children (Year 2/3) will train every Thursday evening and compete in local 5v5 fixtures. It's a completely new team and they are building something the whole community can be proud of. If this sounds like something your business might be interested in please call Ben for details on 07944 867555 or email benjaminpeach@outlook.com.

The picture says it all

Poor parking, a delayed Volvo delivery and a nice bit of reversing?
A familiar problem in The Broadway?
Damn Sat Nav!



Ron's Autobiography

Having said we will serialise *Ripples In The Puddle* in The Riverporter we realise that this may not be possible due to lack of space. Our apologies. However you can still buy a copy at www.blurb.co.uk/b/12813594-ripples-in-the-puddle.



I Swear
 Thursday 7 May 2026 at 7:30pm
 Doors open 6:30pm. Tickets £7
 Director: Kirk Jones (2025), 121m, Cert: 15

I swear is a drama that tells the true story of John Davidson (played by *Robert Aramayo*), a Scottish campaigner who, despite having severe Tourette's Syndrome—which includes physical tics and uncontrollable outbursts—became an advocate for the condition. The film shows his battles with bullying and abuse in the 1980s, his path to adulthood and his ultimate triumph in raising awareness. It delves into the tough realities of living with Tourette's, highlighting the 'cruelty and misunderstanding' John experienced while also including moments of humour, uplifting and moving scenes that celebrate life.



Hamnet
 Thursday 4 June 2026 at 7:30pm
 Doors open 6:30pm. Tickets £7
 Director: Chloé Zhao (2025), 126m, Cert: 12

Hamnet is a fictionalized historical drama, based on Maggie O'Farrell's 2020 novel *Hamnet*, directed by Chloé Zhao, exploring the profound grief of William Shakespeare (*Paul Mescal*) 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*.

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

SATURDAY 11th APRIL 2026



IN THE LIBRARY
 ST IVES, PE27 5BW
 10am - 12pm



Join us at the St Ives Eco Café to discuss public transport, active travel and the pros and cons of electric cars, and help us explore sustainable ways to travel.



HOW TO TRAVEL

(without it costing the Earth)



Entrance by donation to the St Ives Eco Café suggested £2 pay on the door

If you would like to help make a Greener St Ives or come to future Eco Café events, please email: stivesecocafe@gmail.com

The COURTYARD
 St Ives



Boutique Market featuring over 30 independent traders

Located in the cobbled courtyard of Hyperion Auctions in St Ives, you will find our unique market style shopping experience.

30 independent local businesses, selling everything from crafts to home wares, furniture, trinkets, gifts, baby clothes, refurbished items, retro chic, books, artisan jewellery and much much more.

Awarded the "Business in the Community Award" from the Mayor of St Ives

Come and visit!!

Opening times:
 Mon - Sat : 9am - 5pm
 Sun: 10am - 4pm

While you're browsing why not take a seat in our outdoor café for coffees and snacks made by our excellent Barista here in the Courtyard.



Scan the QR code to find out more about us!

