

# The Riverporter



ST IVES AWARD WINNING NEWSPAPER

COVERING THE NEWS FOR ST IVES AND AROUND

Issue 133: 28 April 2023

A TOTALLY INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER • UNCONNECTED WITH ANY GROUP OR ORGANISATION

## Yarn Bombers reign supreme at Coronation Big ~~Lunch~~ Picnic



Sunday 7th May will see Market Hill, in the centre of St Ives, adorned with woolly royalty, care of Elaine Spence and the Star Crafters' team of Yarn Bombers.

Centre piece of the event will be an 8 foot high crown standing in front of the Oliver Cromwell statue. Oliver may have his eyes shaded as he doesn't like festivities!

This is a free event for everyone to bring along a picnic and join in the fun. There will be tables and chairs for 300 people to sit at.

There will also be activities for children and games, including *Splat A Rat*, the *Hobby Horse Race Challenge* and a *Human Fruit Machine*.

Entertainment will include live music from Mark Burton on keyboard and Opera Babe, Karen England plus music from Christopher Schofield and the excellent 29th Funktion.

This will be a fun afternoon on a joyous occasion and with music ranging from Dolly Parton's *Jolene* and the Bee Gees *Staying Alive* to *Land of Hope and Glory* - we will literally see dancing in the street.

Star Crafters have created three Coronation blankets and will be holding a raffle for one of them.

A silent auction will be held for a second blanket and the third blanket will be on sale for £150 from Star Dancewear from 2nd May.

The funds raised will be split between Star Crafters and the Mayor's charities.



**The proposed timetable for the day, which begins at midday is:**

**Midday** - Music from Christopher Schofield, with a repertoire of over 200 songs. There is bound to be a number you can sing along to.

**Stalls open** which includes: Crown making for children, Splat the Rat game, Star Crafters stall and the Coronation Mug stall.

**12.50pm** - Welcome from The Mayor.

**1pm** - A chance to enjoy your picnic with a selection of tunes from the keyboard wizard Mark Burton.

**1.50pm** the first *Hobby Horse Race Challenge*. Races will be held throughout the afternoon in different categories. Children under 6, under 12 and under 18, plus men's, ladies, grandparents and prizes for winners!

**2pm** - Music from The 29th Funktion. Four talented young local musicians bound for stardom.

**2.45pm** - Poems for a coronation. Throughout the day local poets will be performing some of their work written just for this occasion.

**3pm** - Mark returns with Opera Babe, Karen England, for a special Coronation set of inspiring songs incl. *You'll Never Walk Alone* and *Land of Hope & Glory*.

**3.45pm** - *Hobby Horse Race Challenge* finals and prizes.

**4pm** - The 29th Funktion.

**4.50pm** - Closing remarks from The Mayor, Phil Pope.

**Please Note:** This programme is subject to change. If the weather is inclement the event will be held in The Corn Exchange.

## Concerts for 2023

All concerts start at 7.30pm in The Corn Exchange. Tickets £10 from:

[www.ticketsource.co.uk/cexevents](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/cexevents) or from the Riverport Café Bar



**Friday 26th May** Chris Newman and Johnny 'Magic Boy' Wright  
Guitar wizards.



**Thursday 29th June** Dickie de Vere & The Dorchester Mavericks  
Music of the 20's and 30's.



**Friday 28th July** Max de Bernardi & Veronica Sbergia  
Country & Western, folk and swing direct from the USA.



**Friday 29th Sept** The Tapestry Singers  
Secular and sacred contemporary music, a capella style.



**Friday 6th Oct** Danilo Vignola  
Flamenco on a Ukulele from this Italian virtuoso.



**Friday 27th Oct** Lexie Green and Johnny 'Magic Boy' Wright  
Americana and Vintage Blues.



**Friday 24th Nov** Kimberley Rew and Lee Cave-Berry  
Eurovision winning popular music.

Town Mayor, Philip Pope, pictured below with children from Westfield School has handed out a free St Ives Coronation mug to every primary schoolchild in the town. Mugs will be on sale at the Coronation Big Picnic for £8.



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You can contact The Riverporter by telephone on: 07900 112635.

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## Trefoil Guild visit historic St Ives

Our historic town hosted more than 330 Trefoil Guild (Guiding for adults) visitors on Saturday 22 April as members from across the Anglian region met for their annual meeting at The Burgess Hall.

You might have seen some of the visitors (in their red and blue outfits) exploring the town and enjoying boat trips along the river.

*'Thank you for giving us the opportunity to explore your beautiful town. St Ives is a lovely town with lots of interesting things to see.'*

*'We didn't realize there was so much history at St Ives, going back to 2,000 BC' and 'Lovely town to walk in, especially by the river'*, were some of the comments from our visitors on their return. Other Trefoil Guild members enjoyed sporting activities including ten pin bowling and

learning how to play the Paralympic sport Boccia with an England coach. Also on offer was an introduction to heraldry, camp fire singing, craft activities, badge swapping, and demonstrations by local lace makers.

We were honoured to welcome St Ives Mayor Councillor Philip Pope as a special guest, together with local and regional Girlguiding UK and Scouting representatives.

Following an AGM in the afternoon, members were treated to an entertaining and illustrative



Visit <https://www.facebook.com/TrefoilGuildCambsWest>  
or email  
[CWTrefoil.PR@yahoo.com](mailto:CWTrefoil.PR@yahoo.com)  
to find out about your local Trefoil Guild  
and to join the fun.

## Dementia Awareness Day

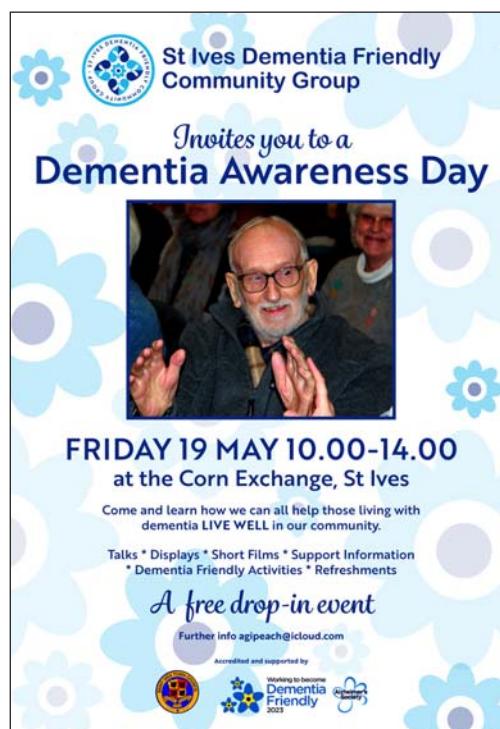
To coincide with the Alzheimer's Society's Dementia Action Week we are holding a St Ives Dementia Awareness Day at the Corn Exchange on Friday, 19 May 10.00-14.00. The event will include talks from 11.00am onwards about dementia, how we can support people with dementia and those who care for them, and what we can do as a community to help. There will be exhibits from relevant organisations and we will be running various drop-in activities throughout the event for people with dementia and their carers.

We would like to invite everyone in our town and neighbouring villages who would like to find out more about dementia and what our Group has on offer for people with dementia and their carers.

We would particularly like representatives of all local businesses and organisations to attend, to increase awareness and pledge to work together to support people affected by dementia in our community.

### Concert

On Wednesday, 17 May, 4.30pm, Karen England (Opera Babes) is giving a free concert at the Free Church with retiring collection and homemade cake sale to raise funds for Alzheimer's Research UK. The concert will also involve Riverport Singers, the St Ives Dementia Friendly Community Choir.



## Kidney Cancer UK Fundraising Event

**Fish & Chips Supper \***  
**Live Music + Dancing + Raffle**



**Professional Vocalist  
SARA HONEY  
Saturday 20th May**

7:30PM to 11:00pm

**At St. Ives Corn Exchange**

**\*Vegetarian  
meal option:  
Please Call  
Shirley by  
Thursday  
18th May.**

**Purchase Tickets:  
From the St. Ives Corn Exchange  
Or Call Shirley on 07718 920019  
Or visit Shirley's Coffee Shop**



**COSI SUMMER CONCERT  
Coronation Year Special**  
Sunday 9th July 2023  
6pm, Free Church, St Ives  
Adults £10, Under 16s – free  
Tickets on the door  
SAVE THE DATE!

**Save The Date** - To celebrate the coronation of King Charles III, COSI will be performing a programme of twentieth-century British and regional music that evokes the landscape, character and history of our nation.

Our summer concert will include Ralph Vaughan Williams Wasps Overture, Doreen Carwithen's Suffolk Suite, George Butterworth's Two English Idylls, Edward German's Three Dances from Henry VIII, Benjamin Britten's Soirees Musicales and Charles Hubert Parry's Overture to an unwritten Tragedy.

## St Ives is the location for new fantasy series



A new web-series called 'Ren: The Girl with the Mark' has been seen filming in St Ives. The series, which is produced independently by Neil Oseman, is set in a fantasy world, and follows the adventures of a young woman with a mysterious mark on her skin.

Neil Oseman, the producer of the new series, said that St Ives was the ideal location. 'We tapped into an amazing community spirit when we filmed in Cambridgeshire for Season One, so I knew we wanted to be based here again. We looked all over the county for a space that would work for us, and St Ives was where we found it.'

'Ren: The Girl with the Mark' has gained a loyal following on social media, with fans eagerly anticipating the release of new episodes.

### Are you looking to get into film?

Earlier in April the production company announced that they still have vacancies for crew roles. Positions included camera, lighting, sound, make-up, art dept and production. Email to [renwebseries@gmail.com](mailto:renwebseries@gmail.com)

We will also be making sets, props, and costumes for Ren throughout the upcoming weeks. So, if you have skills from arts and crafts to carpentry, set building and lifting/moving, come and join us!!

Burleigh Hill Farm, Somersham Road, St Ives, Cambridgeshire PE27 3LY.

Ren is a crowd-funded, not-for-profit web series made entirely by volunteers, so all positions are expenses only.

Original article Cambridge Live by Fareid Atta.

## Hunts Sailing Club – St Ives & Huntingdon Radio Yacht Club Open Day



8th May 2023 1.00pm – 4.00pm

We invite all ages to join us, no experience necessary  
you'll be sailing in minutes and you won't get wet!!

Prize for the fastest lap of the day!

Warning, this sport is Fun and highly addictive





King Erik is ready for the Coronation. Are you?



having your say ...

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

Dear Erik,

**Subject: The A14**

Planting trees requires them to be looked after before and after planting. The soil and variety of tree needs to be matched before and after planting. Then in our everchanging weather, during dry spells, they need watering. Before re planting, there needs to be a plan in place which covers many years before The saplings can start to look after themselves. Regards **Bob Dixon**

Dear Erik,

What breed are you? You are an absolutely spiffing dog! My husband and I would love to welcome a doppelgänger!

Thank you **Jennie and Gavin Clayton**  
Hi, My mum was a Pomeranian and dad a Yorky - I'm a one off. Erik

Dear Erik,

**Subject: Mayoral Precept**

The recently issued council tax notices seem to have caused confusion among many St Ives residents, who have mistakenly thought that the £12 Mayoral precept was to pay for the engagements of our illustrious Town Mayor Phil Pope.

This is incorrect.

The Mayor in question is the Combined Authority Mayor Nik Johnson, and the Precept is to enable bus services to continue in the aftermath of Stagecoach's withdrawal from non profitable routes.

**Nic Wells**

Dear Erik,

**Subject: New book group at St Ives Library**

There is a new book group starting up at the St Ives library dedicated solely to the science fiction and fantasy genres. It is open to adult members of the St Ives library.

It will be held on the first Saturday of the month, at 11am to 12pm starting on Sat 3rd June, 2023.

If people are interested, please email : St Ives SciFi Fantasists at [stivesscififans@gmail.com](mailto:stivesscififans@gmail.com)

Thank you.

Kind regards **H Jones**

Dear Erik,

**Subject: Kidney Cancer UK charity event**

With reference to my charity event on Saturday 20th May, I'm asking if it is possible for my event to be added to the next edition of The Riverporter. I have attached a copy of the event flyer for your use.

I am the local Charity Ambassador for Kidney Cancer UK and so far have raised £12,500. The event I'm hosting promises to be an entertaining evening and will hopefully get me closer to my target of £15,000.

Thank you for your support. **Shirley Chapman**

Dear Shirley, Well done for your efforts and of course we are happy to print your ad.

Dear Erik,

**Poems for a Coronation weekend**

Let the Church bells ring  
'God save the King'  
There's going to be a Coronation  
Today our King will be crowned  
To supercharge our nation.  
So have no fear, he follows on  
A thousand years of Kings,  
That led us down the contour lines  
Of the history of things,  
And brought us to this hallowed place  
Where King Charles the 3rd will reign,  
With his modern style of monarchy,  
May his fervour never wane.

**To Oliver Cromwell's Statue**

You cannot turn away Cromwell,  
From your placement over there,  
Nor avert your ancient eyes  
From the Coronation glare,  
As a brand new Charles the third is crowned  
In your statue's vacant stare  
The dreams of a republic are frozen  
everywhere  
Locked inside your image  
On our ancient Market Square.

You beheaded King Charles One  
For his despotic ways  
How heavily that weighed on you  
In those darkest days  
But the royal train rolls along changing  
everything.  
For now we have a brand new liege  
A very modern king  
Charles the third who sits so well  
At ease with all you taught  
Will set the newest standard  
For a King and his Consort

Let Cromwell's statue to the royals  
A poignant warning be  
As he stands so tall in our Market Square  
In his restive destiny

**Chris Morgan**

**IT'S NOT TOO LATE FOR A SLICE**

There are still tickets available to see the Centre Theatre Players next production

**A SLICE OF SATURDAY NIGHT**

which they are presenting in the Burgess Hall of One Leisure St Ives on May 17th – 20th, the show starting at 7.30pm. This hilarious musical comedy takes us back to the swinging sixties and the club scene of the time. Great characters, fabulous songs together with a live rock band make this a show you will not want to miss.

Tickets: [www.ticketsource.co.uk/burgesshall](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/burgesshall) or from the main reception of One Leisure. This show is not suitable for under 12's.

# The Riverporter

Voted Best local newspaper of the year 2019/20 in the Cambridge Building Society's Community Magazine Awards

## OTHER NEWS

### Church Hall plans turned down

Plans to convert the Parish Hall at the bottom of Ramsey Road into a number of flats have been rejected by HDC's Development Management Committee at their meeting on the 17th April. The Parish Church claimed that the hall was no longer being used as a community facility and needed major repairs.



Conversion to flats would raise money to do work within the church to provide similar facilities and fund general repairs. The Town Council had supported the application, as there are alternative community facilities nearby. HDC Planning Officers raised concern about the loss of a community facility and had some issues with aspects of the design so recommended that the plans be refused. The Committee agreed and the plans were turned down. It is not known if the Parish Church will appeal against the decision or come up with a new scheme.

### Envar application refused

Cambridgeshire County Council's (CCC) Planning Committee has voted 5-4 to reject the planning application by Envar to install new equipment including a new medical waste incinerator at the Woodhurst site just north of St Ives.

CCC Officers had written a 130+ page report on the application which responded to the many comments made by local parish councils and members of the public and had recommended that the application be approved subject to a number of conditions.

However after an epic meeting on the 19th April that ran from 10am to 5pm (with a few breaks), councillors voted to refuse the application for two reasons. The visual impact of the chimney and the impact to local health and wellbeing caused by the development would outweigh the benefits of co-locating the new plant on the site.

The objectors are delighted with the outcome, however their joy may be short lived if Envar decide to appeal and the application is reviewed by the Planning Inspectorate. HDC, who are responsible for the visual aspect of planning applications, did not object to the scheme and the UK Health Security Agency (formerly Public Health England) did not object to the health aspects of the scheme noting that it was very unlikely to be of any significant risk to health. This is not the absolute statement that local residents would want, but it is what a responsible statutory body would make, knowing that it is not possible to eliminate all risks. Only politicians make rash promises such as 'it will never happen again'. It was noted in the meeting that a Planning Inspector would likely reject such reasons.

The meeting also spent some time debating the need for the plant in the first place. This was the main objection made by St Ives Town Council quoting the CCC Waste and Minerals Strategy that it had enough capacity to deal with medical waste.

The CCC Officer's report on the application contained a lot of data on the amount of waste being produced in the area and it is odd that this was not provided before. The data came from CCC and was first seen in their report with no opportunity for anyone to comment. It does not appear to show that there is sufficient waste needed to feed the incinerator that requires 12,000 tonnes each year. Until the formal rejection letter is sent out, it is not clear to what extent that the lack of demand could be a reason for rejecting the application.

The Envar scheme is not totally dead and if they decide to appeal it will run on for many months. The Riverporter will keep you informed.

### Djanogly stands down

Jonathan Djanogly, who had previously said he would fight on to be the Conservative candidate at the next general election, has decided to stand down. He was first elected as MP in 2001 as replacement for former PM John Major.



Commenting on his decision in the Hunts Post, Mr Djanogly said: 'It has been a great privilege to serve the residents of the Huntingdon constituency as their Member of Parliament over the last twenty-two years and, together, we have achieved a significant amount'. Whilst some of his supporters may agree with that statement, clearly not all local Tories do, as they voted 12 to 9 against selecting him for the new constituency.

His critics may find his statement baffling as it is difficult to list any of his achievements whilst the list of controversies is impressive. In 2009 there was the expenses scandal and in 2010 he hired private detectives to discover who had leaked his parliamentary expenses. In 2011 he was stripped of his role regulating Claims Management firms for not disclosing a conflict of interest and during the 2017 general election campaign, at a hustings, he was accused of ignoring a constituents correspondence on childcare for children with disabilities, which he denied, claiming the constituent was a Labour stooge.

More recently he backed water firms being allowed to dump sewage in our rivers and his wife Rebecca Silk lost an employment tribunal where the ex employee claimed she was treated like a slave. That controversy was said to be the last straw for some local Tories.

In 2019 he was ranked 645th out of 650 MPs for 'openness and responsiveness' by change.org. On the other hand he did speak kindly about his ex parliamentary aide, and District Council leader, Ryan Fuller, when Mr Fuller was defeated by Julie Kerr in last year's local elections.

# The COURTYARD St Ives

Open-air boutique market. run by independents

Come and celebrate The Kings Coronation at The Courtyard on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2023. Chip Pauly 'The Global Busker' will be performing LIVE from 11.30-2.00pm

Cream tea's will be available to eat in or take away from 10am

Spring has sprung, it's time to get out in the garden, we stock bulbs, topiary, garden ornaments, rope animals, various sized pots and garden stools in beautiful wood and much more!



The Courtyard, Station Road, St Ives PE27 5BH  
[www.hyperionauctions.co.uk/the-courtyard-shopping](http://www.hyperionauctions.co.uk/the-courtyard-shopping)  
 Tel: 01480 464140



CUT OUT AND KEEP

## SSI Screen St Ives

Community Cinema



### THE LOST KING

Thursday 4 May 2023  
 at 7:30pm, doors open 6:30pm  
 Tickets £5  
 Director: Stephen Frears  
 108m, Cert: 12

Due to Holidays there will be no screening on Thursday 19 May 2023  
 Screen St Ives will return on the Thursday 1 June 2023



Richardson & Burton  
 present



# St Ives Corn Exchange Las Vegas

RAT PACK & FRIENDS



Thursday May 4th at 2pm

£10

[www.ticketsource.co.uk/cexevents](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/cexevents)

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CAREY MULLIGAN ZOE KAZAN  
**SHE SAID**



### SHE SAID

Thursday 1 June 2023  
 at 7:30pm Door open 6:30pm.  
 Tickets £5  
 Director: Maria Schrader  
 128m, Cert: 15

BLANCHETT  
**TÁR**



### TÁR

Thursday 15 June 2023  
 at 7:30pm. Doors open 6:30pm.  
 Tickets £5  
 Director: Todd Field,  
 152m, Cert 15

Tickets from [screenstives.org.uk](http://screenstives.org.uk) or in the Corn Exchange