

# The Bridge



News, views and events from your Town Council

July 2017

*St Ives Riverport heritage • Beautiful location • Community spirit • Exceptional shopping*



## Highlights...

- Meet the new Town Mayor ..... 2-3
- Annual Report ..... 10-11
- Cycle rack crisis? ..... 13
- Meet Jen ..... 13

Saturday 29th & Sunday 30th July

10am - 4pm

Fantastic festival event to celebrate the reopening of the museum

\*\*living history\*\*crafts\*\*t-shirts\*\*stalls\*\*refreshments\*\*2pm parades\*\*



NORRIS MUSEUM  
SPECIAL  
See pages 4-5

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### FRONT COVER

As this issue is a Norris Museum special we are pleased to present the poster to advertise their weekend of celebration. The reopening is sure to be a memorable event and so please come along and join in the fun.

Image courtesy of the Norris Museum

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# MAYOR'S MESSAGE

## THOUGHTS FOR JULY

Welcome one and all to another edition of *The Bridge* and my first column as Town Mayor of St Ives. I'd like to start by saying what an honour it is to be your Mayor and I would like to thank both you, the people of St Ives, for putting your faith in me to represent you, and also my fellow Councillors for electing me to lead them through this year.

I have lived in our picturesque town since I was eighteen months old and have attended both Wheatfields Infant/Junior School and the St Ivo Secondary School. I have two brothers, two sisters-in-law, four nephews and one niece who also live in St Ives. I run my own business, Floods Tavern, in the town centre. I cleared tables there when I started at the age of fourteen and have worked my way up to Landlord. I hold regular fundraising activities in memory of my parents and grandparents and have raised many thousands of pounds for charity with the help of some amazing people. I have also performed with many



Photograph by Allan Witherrick/STC

groups in the town including the Centre Theatre Players and the St Ives Youth Theatre.

I am now in my sixth year of service with St Ives Town Council where I am the representative for both Police and CCTV Liaison groups. For the last two years I have been Chairman of the Property Committee as well as sitting on the Amenities and the Promotion & Publicity Committees.

**My charities** After being elected Town Mayor at the traditional Mayor Making ceremony - one of the proudest days of my life - I selected my charities for the coming year. My first is Magpas Air



And then at the D-Day Dinner at RAF Weymouth with Jacob Millan, grandson of William 'Piper Bill' (alongside), the 42nd Engineer Regiment RSM (Regimental Sergeant Major)

Photograph by Ian Jackson



So many appearances in so short a time! Here is our new Town Mayor about to race at the Mobility Grand Prix with Matty Laubscher, a brave junior member of St Ives Golf Club.

Ambulance which I have supported for several years. There isn't a day that goes by that I don't hear someone talking about what a great job it does. Magpas has attended a number of emergencies in St Ives recently and the volunteer doctors and paramedics are always ready when needed to provide lifesaving treatment.

My second charity is The Macmillan Woodlands Centre at Hinchingbrooke Hospital which provides first-class cancer treatment. My mother and grandmother sadly lost their lives to cancer and I don't think I know a single person who hasn't been affected by this disease in one way or another.

I shall also be supporting local causes in St Ives. The money I raise will be spread among youth groups and other charitable groups within the town, including St Ives Rugby Union Football Club (SIRUFC) youth teams, St Ives Youth Theatre (SIYT), Acorn Cancer Support Group and the Army and Air Cadets.

#### My motivation

So, why did I get into local politics? I have always had a real passion for St Ives and felt that joining the Council was my way of making a small difference on behalf of the people who live, work and visit here. I have

**I have always had a real passion for St Ives ... //**

also always respected the position of Town Mayor having met many of the previous Mayors as a young child. To now be in this position myself is an amazing and overwhelming honour and I am proud that I have now become part of St Ives history. I will always do my best for this town and the people within it.

#### My objectives

There is a lot going on in St Ives as I'm sure you are all aware. My plan for this town will be to strengthen relations between the wonderful groups who give so much free time and energy into making this a great town to live and visit. I will also attempt to build a strong positive relationship with all tiers of Government - Huntingdonshire District Council, Cambridgeshire County Council and the new Combined Authority for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough to ensure that St Ives is valued as the special town that we all know it is. There will be many issues to address as we move forward with the District Council's Master Plan for St Ives including ensuring that the infrastructure is in place to accommodate new housing. Education and transport matters will also need to be examined and I hope that the contacts that I make will ease this process dramatically.

**I will also attempt to build a strong positive relationship with all tiers of Government ... //**

#### Come to my parade!

I am still relatively new to the post but I have already attended many events and met some truly inspirational people. I hope that many of them, and many of you, will be able to join me in St Ives Town Centre on Sunday 24 September at 12.30 pm for the Mayors Civic Parade and Service. This will be attended by many local youth groups and, this year, the 42nd Engineer Regiment based at RAF Wyton. My predecessor, Cllr Mrs Debbie Townsend and I have built up a strong relationship with this regiment and I am really looking forward to seeing them parade with us.

Now I must thank all those who have already offered me so much encouragement and support since I was elected. I hope I can make the town of St Ives proud of me as I progress through my Mayoral year.

My final comment this issue is to say how pleased and excited I am that the grand opening of the newly refurbished Norris Museum will happen during my year as Mayor. I look forward to joining you all later this month for a fantastic weekend of celebrations (see pages 4-5 and What's On?).

CLLR PHILIP M. POPE,  
TOWN MAYOR



Then there is cake of course! He confessed to finding it difficult to give it away to Farmers' Market stall holders on Taster Day'.  
Photograph by Tom Rawlinson/STIC



The Rangers Blue Sox Under 10s football team was pleased with his support at the St Ives Rangers Football Festival. Nephew Micah plays and brother Stephen is coach, but Phil declined their invitation to be goalie.



Pastor Andie Richards was proud to commemorate the Town Mayor's opening of the new Bridge Church at Burrell Road.

# BIG NEWS FROM THE NORRIS

## A NEW ERA FOR THE MUSEUM!



THE NORRIS MUSEUM  
Huntingdonshire's Local History & Art Museum

We are now only weeks away from The Norris Museum being reopened after eighteen months of redevelopment. Museum Director, Sarah Russell, shares some of the experience exclusively with *The Bridge* readers and tells us about a momentous opening event that is set to get the whole town celebrating!

### How we got here: the story of construction

This part of our story began in December 2015 when we were awarded a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund. This grant gave us the green light to put all our carefully laid plans into practice.

As many of you will know, this started with us moving out of our museum home into temporary accommodation. By March 2016 the museum had been cleared of all its contents thanks to an incredible volunteer effort. Seeing the museum empty was quite a moment for many reasons. One which particularly stands out was the fact that for the first time in 80-odd years the building, so beautifully designed by Sidney Inskip Ladds, was properly revealed. We could see some of the quirks of the design - the fact that nothing sits quite square or quite central - the porch, for example, sits off-centre with the window opposite as you enter; and the end of what was the library (now temporary exhibition gallery) is also not square so we have a much smaller window on one side!

As well as this being exciting for us, so it was for our architects:

*'The Norris Museum is a hidden gem. The museum is a cultural and historic place which - once discovered - never leaves you. As conservation architects and designers, secret, beguiling, inspiring and enriching spaces are exactly what Caroe Architecture Ltd get excited about.'*

Oliver Caroe, Director

The character and material nature of our building is something our builders, Andy Knott Construction, have also got to know very well since they came on site in late summer 2016. It has been the job of Andy's team to make all the structural changes to the existing buildings and to construct the new extension that will house our community room.

*'The existing buildings of the Norris were incredibly well made. The walls are solid and in some places several feet thick. Where we have taken walls down or excavated foundations has been quite a challenge!'*

Site Foreman, Andy Knott Construction

One of the most concerning times we have had during the build was when Storm Doris was on its way. At this point, the frame structure of the extension was up but not yet supported by any walls. However, despite Doris trying her best to cause havoc, the builders had taken the necessary precautions and everything remained standing.

### Fitting out

Whilst Andy Knott Construction were busy on site at the museum,

our exhibition designers, PLB Projects, have been working with the team at The Norris to design the internal spaces. This is an incredibly important part of the process to ensure that all the display units going into the galleries help tell the story of Huntingdonshire. Once we were happy with the design we contracted The Workhaus, a specialist museum fit-out company, to bring those designs to life and install them in the museum.

This is possibly my favourite part of the whole process - when you start to see the museum galleries come to life. I spend hundreds of hours over a period of years looking at designs, on paper or on a 3D model, but there is nothing quite like seeing the result of all that work in real life! Every piece of unit - showcase, graphic, interactive - has been painstakingly considered, tested and checked from both a technical point of view but also to make sure it is going to contribute to the experience our visitors have when they come through the doors.

What comes next?  
Once the  
builders

and fit-out contractors have left, it is time for us to move back home - and that is exactly what it feels like! We have been made very welcome in the Town Hall and made some new friends in all the different offices there, but it is the most exciting feeling to be moving back to our museum.

**...it is the most exciting feeling to be moving back to our museum.**

Once again, the fabulous Team Norris, the Norris volunteers, have been mustered to move all the collections and contents - this time back! We are also really looking forward to welcoming the St Ives In Bloom volunteers in to help us replant the garden. Then it is a case of getting it ready to welcome all of you!

**The reopening festival weekend**  
On Saturday 29th and Sunday 30th of July we will be flinging our door wide to welcome the public

back into the museum. We have a fantastic two days of fun planned. As well as being able to see the new galleries, you will also be able to experience some living history, print your very own reopening T-shirt with artist Ricki Outis and get creative with all sorts of crafts. There will be stalls, demonstrations and even dancing

We have a  
fantastic two  
days of fun  
planned.

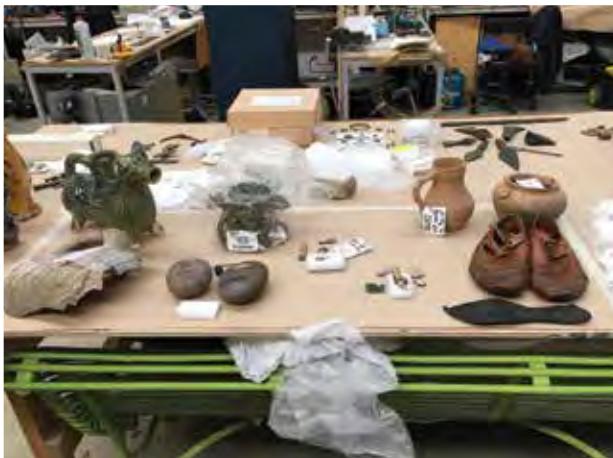
on The Waits as well as plenty of refreshments. As this is such a special occasion for St Ives the Town Mayor, Councillor Philip Pope, will be leading a parade on both days at 2 pm when everyone is welcome to join us.

SARAH RUSSELL, DIRECTOR,  
NORRIS MUSEUM

Entry to the museum  
and events is free but  
there will be a small  
charge for T-shirts.



*An outside view of the site work in progress with eight weeks to go, and (right) architect Chris Davies looks puzzled as he checks his notes for the new archive room!*



*What goes where - planning the layout of the showcases in the workshop; and (right) look out, they've arrived!*



# TOWN TEAM UPDATE

## NEW INITIATIVES THIS SUMMER

All images courtesy of the Town Team



### Chapel Arts Season

New this year is a season of arts events based in and around our Chapel on the Bridge.

**New this year is a season of arts events ...**

15 July), bridge walk (5 and 9 August) and an island walk (23 September) are free public events sponsored by the Arts Council and supported by the Town Team. They include workshops and activities and culminate in a final event in the Chapel (21 October) to unite the three different themes. For more details go to [www.invitationtotravel.info](http://www.invitationtotravel.info)

**Sax in The Chapel** The amazing Myke Clifford will play some of his own music and other compositions for saxophone and flute on Wednesday 19 July at 8 pm. Details and tickets from the Corn Exchange or on-line at [www.ticketsource.co.uk/eventsstives](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/eventsstives).

**The Mill Wives of St Ives**  
Last year we produced a play on The Quay, which proved so popular that we decided to create another this year - *The Mill Wives of St Ives*. Here's a taste: *Entrepreneur and boffin, Clive Sincere, leads a team developing products that will transform lives. During this time of social upheaval, power cuts, flares and the three-day-week, Production Manager Tommy Doo is having*



women trouble and the Mill Wives are making him pay for it by demanding a wage rise.

Now, at 7 pm on Saturday 29 July, you can re-discover life in St Ives in the 1970s, before the bypass, when the Mill was still a place of work with a scandalous story on every floor. Tickets are from the Corn Exchange or on-line at [www.ticketsource.co.uk/eventsstives](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/eventsstives).

Putting on The Mill Wives involves a whole host of tasks from writing it (in verse), composing music, holding auditions, choreographing dance routines, organising road closures, building the stage and borrowing 200 chairs. With many rehearsals, costumes to source and health and safety rules it's a real challenge. Fortunately St Ives is blessed with many talented people who work together to make unique events like this successful and memorable.

**... it's a real challenge.**

### Later this year

We're also building on past successes, such as the ever-growing **Old Riverport Jazz & Blues Festival**, which this year provides 28 FREE concerts between 28 September



to 1 October - including sessions in Hemingford Abbots and Fenstanton.

### Spreading the word

Keeping St Ives busy also means reaching out. We regularly visit more than 20 campsites, hotels, marinas, B&Bs, shops and village halls delivering posters and leaflets. The new Old Riverport Complimentary Guide with updated map and historic walk is now packed with extra information. It has proved very popular, especially in Cambridge's Tourist Information Centre where we promote St Ives as the best destination outside the City. You can get the guide from the Town Hall or Corn Exchange.

JOHN SOUTER, CHAIR TOWN TEAM

**For more details of any of the events described here keep an eye on [www.theoldriverportstives.co.uk](http://www.theoldriverportstives.co.uk)**

# BLUE LIGHT SERVICES SAVING LIVES: OUR ON-CALL AMBULANCE SERVICE



In this, the second in our series on our local emergency services, we learn from Adam Gretton, East of England Ambulance Service Trust Media Officer, about our local Ambulance Service and our all-important local volunteer Community First Responder Group.

The East of England Ambulance Service NHS Trust (EEAST) receives around 500 emergency calls a day in Cambridgeshire! Ambulance staff and volunteers work hard to provide the best possible care to patients across the county and there is an ambulance station in Stephenson Road, St Ives, just off Burrell Road.

The Trust actually receives around 3,000 calls a day in total across the whole of the east of England. However, not all calls are emergencies and patients are reminded that they can call 111 if they are looking for health advice 24/7. The Trust's headquarters are based in Melbourn, Cambridgeshire, which is also home to one of the Trust's Hazardous Area Response Team (HART) bases. The HART paramedics are also on-call 24/7 to respond to major incidents anywhere in the East of England.

The paramedics have the skills and equipment to get to a patient in a dangerous environment, for example being trapped in a confined space or at height, allowing them to deliver life-saving treatment at the point of danger, often in very difficult circumstances. The team is equipped with specialist vehicles including an Incident Command Unit (ICU) and an Incident Response Unit (IRU).



*It's at times like this we realise how much we depend on our blue light services.*



*Another emergency patient is delivered safely to A&E by our wonderful ambulance service.*

**... staff provided 'outstanding' care.**

Last year the Care Quality Commission (CQC) inspected EEAST, and found that staff provided 'outstanding' care. The Trust provides emergency care across six counties and employs 4,000 people with almost 1,000 volunteers.

For more information about the service and opportunities to join the team please visit [www.eastamb.nhs.uk](http://www.eastamb.nhs.uk)

## FANCY BECOMING A COMMUNITY FIRST RESPONDER?

**Last year, St Ives CFRs responded to more than 500 calls on behalf of the ambulance service.**

St Ives also has a very active community first responder group (CFR). CFRs are volunteers who are trained by the ambulance service

to respond to medical emergencies. Last year St Ives CFRs responded to more than 500 calls on behalf of the ambulance

service. CFRs are trained by the ambulance service to perform basic life support and attend 999 calls such as cardiac arrests, diabetes emergencies and people who are choking, having a seizure or suffering from breathing problems and chest pain. Because CFRs volunteer where they live or work, they can often get to a patient

before an ambulance crew or rapid response vehicle. The CFR group relies on donations and fundraising to cover the cost of the majority of their equipment.

New CFR members are always welcome. If you are interested in joining our local group and contributing to the fantastic service they provide in our community, you can find out more about volunteering to help the ambulance service here <http://www.eastamb.nhs.uk/join-the-team/community-first-responders>



*Community First Responders are quickly on the scene.*

# VOLUNTEERING IS GOOD FOR YOU!

## ST IVES VOLUNTEER OFFICE NEWS

Organiser Natalie Leigh-Brown explains how you can become a volunteer and be a part this vitally important service in our community.

### Finding a role for you

Would you like to help others and give something back to your local community? Would you like to share your knowledge and experience, learn new skills, make new friends, but most of all have fun?

The St Ives Volunteer Office (part of Huntingdonshire Volunteer Centre) is here to help find the right volunteer role for you. Call us about offering your time in your local area. Volunteering can be for an hour or two on a regular basis, or it can be for 'one-off' events - it just depends upon your availability and your interests.

### Are you a driver with spare time?

The St Ives office, which is located on the first floor of the Free Church, also manages one of the four Huntingdonshire

Volunteer Centre Car Schemes. By working co-operatively with the other Volunteer Offices in Huntingdon, Ramsey

and St Neots, all areas of Huntingdonshire receive access to these vital services, which also form part of the network of Community Transport across Cambridgeshire.

This service is for anyone who needs to make essential journeys, for example for medical appointments, shopping

and meeting friends, where no suitable public transport exists and for individuals with mobility difficulties. Users pay the drivers 40 pence per mile or a £2 minimum charge to cover driver's costs, plus a £1 booking fee - much cheaper than a taxi! The journeys are made possible by volunteers who use their own cars to provide transport. A number of them are Dementia Friends and so are contributing to our local Dementia Friendly Community initiative, part of the nationwide Alzheimer's Society programme.



The St Ives organiser, Natalie Leigh-Brown, actively recruits, supports and manages our volunteer drivers and administrative volunteers who help to operate the scheme. She

We are always looking for volunteer drivers ...

says, 'We are always looking for volunteer drivers to help with this busy community scheme, and so if this could be you, please contact Natalie on 01480 301462 between Monday and Thursday from 12.30 to 3 pm.'

Volunteering is good for you - research has found that those who

volunteer are more engaged in their communities and much happier and healthier as a result! Why not find out what you can do?

If you would like to volunteer to offer your skills in any other role or would like help recruiting volunteers for your project you can also contact Natalie by email on [stives@huntsvc.org.uk](mailto:stives@huntsvc.org.uk).

NATALIE LEIGH-BROWN, ST IVES VOLUNTEER OFFICE



Natalie Leigh-Brown with all the details.

## COUNCIL SUPPORT

St Ives Town Council is proud to support the on-going vital service this group offers to our community and this year was pleased to award the St Ives branch of the Huntingdonshire Volunteer Centre £2,000 under our 'small grants to local groups' scheme. If you run a voluntary group and are interested in this scheme please contact the Town Hall for more information - see back cover for contact details.



Photograph by Linda Scales/SSTC

# CLERK'S CORNER

## COUNCIL MATTERS

Every year the Town Councillors meet to set the budget for St Ives. This encompasses everything that we do and in 2016/17 we spent a grand total of £1,245,336 (compared to £710,383 in the previous year). That does not mean that your Council Tax went up in the same proportion.

The majority of the Council income is from the precept, part of Council Tax that is charged to each property. This is the amount agreed by St Ives Town Councillors, on behalf of residents, which should be spent in St Ives. In many cases this is to provide facilities for free at the point of use, such as the parks, playgrounds and the day-to-day running of the Norris Museum. In addition, a small amount of income is then raised through our leases and fees, such as at the cemetery and allotments.

This has been an exceptional year financially, primarily because of the monies we have contributed towards the renovations and activities at the Norris Museum.

This has seen an extra £0.5m pass through the Town Council accounts as we work to provide improvements to a much-loved facility for all the community. But this is not the only major event happening locally.

Where last year my predecessor noted the Farmers' Market winning an award, this year we are able to look back at a period where the Council was able to help achieve two Golds. The first was from Anglia in Bloom where the hard work of the local St Ives in Bloom group, alongside our own Grounds Maintenance Team,

**This has been an exceptional year financially**

**... the Council was able to help achieve two Golds.**

helped to mark a real achievement visible for all to see. We intend to try and maintain this standard. Separately we are also looking at future green spaces which are appearing as part of new developments in the town, and how these might complement our future work.

The second Gold was far less visible and was for the Local Council Award Scheme, as reported in the May issue of this magazine. This built on and replaced the older Quality Council status and shows that the Council has good governance, community engagement and a commitment to on-going improvement.

**the Council has good governance, community engagement and a commitment to on-going improvement**

In general the Council is seeking to take a more long-term perspective. It has adopted a Strategic Plan and we are putting in place more tools to help identify areas of expenditure and how they might change over time. Part of this has included supporting some community groups for a three-year period to help provide a level of certainty. However, this has been complicated slightly by the shortening of the current Councillors' term of office by Huntingdonshire District Council to May 2018.

ALLAN SIAO MING WITHERICK, TOWN CLERK

## COUNCIL MEETINGS DIARY

### JULY

- 12 Planning Committee and Full Town Council Meeting
- 19 Property and Personnel Committees
- 26 Planning and Amenities Committees

PLEASE NOTE You are welcome to address any Council or Committee Meeting as long as you are on the Electoral Register for St Ives. Meetings normally start at 7 pm in the Town Hall. You may speak for up to three minutes, subject to the maximum provision of 15 minutes for all speakers. Your questions at meetings must be relevant to matters in which the Town Council has powers or duties, or matters relating to the promotion or improvement of the economic, social or environmental well-being of the town.

### AUGUST

- 9 Planning Committee

### SEPTEMBER

- 13 Planning Committee and Full Town Council Meeting
- 27 Planning and Amenities Committees

# ANNUAL REPORT 2016 – 2017

## ACCOUNTS

Our accounts have been drawn up in accordance with the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014. The main source of income is the Precept which is collected by Huntingdonshire District Council as part of Council Tax locally. For 2016/17 this was £695,425. The tax base is 5,789 Band D properties used for calculating Council Tax to give a rate of

£120.13. Council has agreed that for 2017/18 this will increase to £121.84.

Full details of the accounts, including our reserves, are available from the Town Hall. A summary of the Income and Expenditure account for the year ending 31 March 2017 follows on this and the next page. You will find a table of Councillors' attendance at meetings opposite.

## ST IVES TOWN INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017

31 March 2016		31 March 2017
Income Summary		
£		£
684,030	Precept	695,425
<hr/>		<hr/>
684,030	Sub Total	695,425
Operating Income		
0	Administration	0
20	Civic	0
0	Grants	0
3,127	Council General	1,030
17,474	Amenities General	13,878
20,085	Playground/Open Spaces/Cemetery	30,864
7,059	Allotments	4,602
36,434	Town Hall	24,685
354	Norris	1,000
120	Warner's Park Pavilion	70
3,050	Ground Maintenance Depot	3,050
0	Norris	0
554	Other income	0
8,974	Capital - Council	6,228
0	Capital - Norris Museum	463,092
<hr/>	Total Income	<hr/>
781,281		1,243,924
<hr/>		<hr/>
Expenditure Summary		
£		£
	Running Costs	
16,352	Administration	15,502
0	Solicitor	0
8,411	Insurance	8,997
66,218	Finance	64,517
10,644	Advertising & Publicity	7,684
6,710	Civic	8,540

31 March 2016

31 March 2017

Expenditure Summary	
£	£
30,335	31,918
15,569	15,569
340,356	357,090
40,685	50,770
2,580	3,616
1,537	0
7,916	4,858
14,063	17,344
1,149	763
26,864	32,751
6,235	7,817
24,308	24,144
0	79
10,158	10,428
240	4,657
0	0
24,288	24,680
26,833	4,633
9,714	46,311
19,218	502,667
<b>710,383</b>	<b>1,245,336</b>
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	
General Fund Analysis	
337,356	408,793
781,281	1,243,924
1,118,637	1,652,717
710,383	1,245,336
408,254	407,381
539	60,722
<b>408,793</b>	<b>468,103</b>
<b>Closing Balance</b>	

**Councillors' Attendance** - Municipal Year 2016/17

For each councillor we have indicated the number of meetings that they attended and the number of which they could have attended. This is to take into account where a councillor has changed membership of committees. The numbers are shown

as Attended/Possible so that 6/7 indicates that a councillor was summoned to 7 meetings and attended 6.

\*Note that the Town Mayor is able to attend any council meeting ex-officio and where he/she is not a normal member of the committee this is indicated with an asterisk.

	Full Council 12 Meetings	Amenities Committee 9 Meetings	Personnel Committee 4 Meetings	Planning Committee 22 Meetings	Promotion & Publicity Committee 5 Meetings	Property committee 4 Meetings
Ayers Wilson	6/12				1/2	
Davies	12/12	7/9		19/22		
Dibben	11/12		1/2	22/22		3/4
Dobson	10/12	7/9	2/4	18/22	3/5	3/4
Drye	11/12		3/4			3/4
D'Souza	12/12		2/3	12/15	4/5	
Fuller	10/12	6/9				1/4
Hunt	5/12	1/9		7/22		
Jackson	8/12				3/5	
Kuch	12/12		4/4	7/7		4/4
Luter	11/12	7/9	3/4	12/15		
Pallant	10/12		3/3		3/3	4/4
Pope	10/12	7/9			4/5	4/4
Rowe	10/12	9/9	4/4	20/22	5/5	
Spencer	8/12	5/9			3/5	
Tiddy	11/12		1/1	21/22		
Townsend	12/12	*8/9	*3/4	*13/19	*4/5	4/4

# NEW GROUND MAINTENANCE DEPOT INVESTING IN THE FUTURE

Cllr Dan Rowe, Chair of the Amenities Committee, brings us up to date on a major Town Council project.

**Improving services and amenities**  
In current times everyone is trying to save money everywhere in order to try and make ends meet. While many councils are being forced to do this by reducing services and amenities, St Ives Town Council has instead preferred to seek ways of making the services we provide more efficient. To that end, our Council is delighted to announce that the construction of our new, long awaited, Ground Maintenance Depot is now complete and the ground maintenance team has moved in.

**...the Council has instead regarded it as a great opportunity...**

attractive as possible. They carry out a great number of duties throughout the area, including grass cutting, maintenance of the allotments and looking after the many benches, bus shelters and items of play equipment, to name but a few. These services inevitably require large amounts of tools and equipment in order to carry them

These hard-working members of the Town Hall staff make sure that the 'face' of the town is kept as

out. Such is the great work carried out by the team their requirements outgrew their existing site and they needed to move to a larger one. Rather than seeing this as a problem, the Council has instead regarded it as a great opportunity to create a new purpose-built facility to meet both the current and future needs of the town.

### Weighing the options

A number of options were explored by the Council regarding where the new depot could be sited. In the meantime the District Council offered use of the Octagon - the old livestock auction house in the bus station. However, while we were sympathetic to the desire to keep that historic building in use, it was unfortunately ill-suited to the job, due to its size, layout and lack of facilities. In addition, given the nature of the work carried out by the grounds maintenance team and the areas in which they operate, the Octagon was again considered unsuitable for the job. Its position would have created increased journeys adding additional traffic to roads already under pressure.

Instead, the Council decided to locate the new depot at Hill Rise. Here, as well as being convenient for the allotments, it is well placed to serve the other amenity spaces,

many of which are based in the north of the town. The site is sufficiently large to accommodate not only the equipment, but also the necessary washroom and welfare facilities to make it viable as a workspace. There is even space for a toilet that can now be used by the allotment holders themselves - something that many of them have been requesting for a while!

### An asset for the town

This facility has come at a cost but the Council has calculated that the investment will in the long term be cheaper than renting another building. It has been paid for from reserves which are used for planned major expenditure like this, as well as for the unexpected, rather than increasing the precept. The money spent will be replaced in the reserves in time by money not spent on continuing rent. And, in the long term, the new building will prove a valuable asset for the town that will result in ongoing savings that will reduce demands on the Council Tax. Serving the town with investment, cost savings and more efficient services rather than cutting budgets to the bone - that's the St Ives Town Council way!

CLLR DAN ROWE, CHAIR AMENITIES COMMITTEE

**...the Octagon was again considered unsuitable for the job. //**



*The scale and size of the new Ground Maintenance Depot is impressive. It is designed to do the job and it is in the right place.*

# CYCLE RACK CRISIS? YOU SAY YES!

Following letters received from residents, the Town Council's Amenities Committee has agreed to investigate providing additional cycle racks around St Ives. The St Ives Town Strategic Plan includes improved cycling provision and making it easier to park bicycles in a secure way that does not impact on other road users. A survey of existing official and unofficial cycle parking will be carried out and places where racks can be provided identified.

... some passengers now cycle to bus stops ...

The survey will not just include the town centre but also other local facilities such as the Rainbow Centre and the shops at Kings Hedges. Following the change in routing to the Stagecoach Route B bus away from residential areas, some passengers now cycle to bus stops and so cycle racks at key sites, such as at the Seven Wives and the top of Houghton Hill, will also be investigated.

A crucial issue will be to establish who owns the land in each case as permission will be required prior to



Racks in Market Hill rapidly fill up (left) resulting in some owners utilising lampposts, sign posts and street furniture and causing obstructions. Here's an idea! (right) Bike racks shaped to resemble, in our case, sheep, cattle and maybe swans?

new facilities being provided. If new sites can be identified, the Town Council could use some of the Community Infrastructure Levy money it receives as a result of new development to fund new racks

If you have any suggestions where new cycle racks can be provided, please contact the Town Hall.

CLLR DAN ROWE, CHAIR AMENITIES COMMITTEE

## MEET YOUR NEW COUNCILLOR JEN SPENCER

Elected in May 2016 in the South Ward, Jen tells us why she stood for Council and her feelings a year on.

I joined the Council because I wanted to make things nice. I know this sounds simple but I want to spread joy and for everyone to be comfortable. I also want to add diversity to Council and be someone that those who don't necessarily feel represented can relate to.

I have long-term health issues that can limit my activity due to pain and fatigue, but nevertheless I am heavily involved with dementia groups in the town - the Memory Lane Sing-along Café, the Dementia Friendly Community initiative and the Dementia Monday Group. I run the Thanked St Ives Facebook page - [www.facebook.com/ThankedStIves](http://www.facebook.com/ThankedStIves) - a place to acknowledge and encourage small acts of kindness that brighten our lives.

sky-gazing! Everything we exist within is connected and so it is important to consider all life and impacts, not just for ourselves but also for the environment around us. I stand up to hate and cruelty, fuelled by my empathetic and peace-maker predisposition. I recently rediscovered my love of DJ-ing which reminds me of the times I used to regularly play in the Lounge club and Robin Hood pub years ago.

I love the dance music community's PLUR ethos - peace, love, unity, respect. Finally, I'm the official Town Elf and love to help out at the Christmas Lights Switch-on ceremony!

I like to think I contribute a different way of thinking and I hope to raise points that are a bit off-the-wall but ultimately genuine and insightful. I want to bring about positive social and environmental developments where respect and playfulness co-exist together.

I'm always glad to hear from you. You can also follow me at [facebook.com/jenspencercouncil](https://facebook.com/jenspencercouncil)

My dream is a Well-being Committee ...

I'd like to create a tree re-homing forest and use chainsaw art when trees are felled. North Road bottlenecks, signage for wheelchair access drop-kerbs, repair fairs and ensuring responsible use of Council funds are all on my list. My dream is a Well-being Committee, to encourage emotional and physical good practice, to help everyone be the best brilliant themselves they can be!

I appreciate the magic of nature and can often be found



Remember 'Back to the Future Day' on 21 October 2015? I dressed in style and raised £550 around town for the Alzheimer's Society. Such fun!

Photograph by Teresa Crickmore

Photograph by Tom Rawlinson

# NOTICE BOARD

## The new St Ives Show

Put 2 September 2017 in your diary – it's the date of this year's revamped Flower, Produce and Craft Show which has become such a regular fixture in the life of the town.

Held annually in the Corn Exchange, a new team is now taking it forward and it is your opportunity to show off your skills in growing flowers and vegetables, making crafts, baking, painting and much more. It's all wrapped up in a bit of competition, with prizes at the end of the day. It's free to take part and above all great fun, so see if you can produce a set of fantastic choc-chip cookies, start planning your flower arrangements and keep your eyes open while on holiday for some stunning photos.

You'll find all the information you need on the web site [www.stivesshow.org.uk](http://www.stivesshow.org.uk). There is a copy of the Schedule giving you full instructions on how to enter, set recipes for baking and descriptions for the craft items, flower arranging and photography classes.

## Shape your care and support



Do you or someone that you care for have a disability or a long term health condition? Are receiving support such as home care, a support worker, day services or respite care?

Maybe you are starting to feel as though you might need some help in the future but are not sure about your options, and how you go about getting the help that you need?

Voices4Choices can help you apply for a Direct Payment which can be used to fund your care and support. The payment can be used to pay a friend or neighbour for assistance if you did not wish to use a care agency.

Contact James or Leisha on 0300 111 2301 for further information or visit [www.cambridgeshire.net/event/voices4choices](http://www.cambridgeshire.net/event/voices4choices).

## Life (Saving) Support

Would you consider supporting Magpas Air Ambulance with a donation towards the crucial life-saving care it provides 24/7 across Cambridgeshire? Over the last 12 months the team attended 1,647 incidents, half of which were in Cambridgeshire, and in the first five months of the year Magpas responded to 873 appeals for help.



The charity receives no state funding and keeping the service going costs £4.8 million a year so public support is essential. For further information on how to donate and to read more about the team's amazing work visit [www.magpas.org.uk](http://www.magpas.org.uk).

## Help from the Outset

Could you be your own boss? If you need guidance and support to start your new business, Outset Huntingdonshire is there to help. The following free services are provided:

- Business skills workshops
- One-to-one mentoring
- Online learning and business plan creation
- Access to finance

Find out more at  
[www.huntingdon.outset.org](http://www.huntingdon.outset.org)  
 or call 0800 032 7851.



## Don't miss the Carnival or the Music Festival!



These popular, fun for all the family events return on Saturday and Sunday 8 and 9 July.

The Carnival Parade leaves the town centre at 11.45 am to arrive at approx. 1 pm at Hill Rise Park. Afternoon entertainment will commence from 1.30 pm and the day will finish with 'Proms in the Park' with Huntingdon Concert Band and a Fireworks Finale. The event ends at 10 pm. On Sunday the music begins at noon and finishes at 9 pm. The line-up of acts is still to be announced.

If you'd like to get involved, either by joining the parade, hosting a stall or sponsoring part of the event contact [enquiries@sicmf.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@sicmf.co.uk) or visit the Facebook page for regular updates.

## SEEKING 'VOXPOPS'



'Voxpop' noun - popular opinion as represented by informal comments from members of the public, especially when published. That's what we at The Bridge are after. We want to hear your brief tales of life in St Ives which illustrate your relationship with the town and your views on anything and everything St Iviian.

Send us your stories. We may use them to expand into feature articles or place your interesting little snippets throughout the magazine to give a true flavour of our community.

Email us at [clerk@stivestowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@stivestowncouncil.gov.uk) or drop your stories into the Town Hall. We can't wait to hear from you.

# WHAT'S ON?

## TOWN COUNCIL, CIVIC AND RELATED EVENTS

*All details of the events listed were correct at the time The Bridge went to press.  
Please check organisers/venues for final details.*

Carnival Committee [enquiries@sicmf.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@sicmf.co.uk) • Corn Exchange 01480 496454 [info@thecornexchange.org.uk](mailto:info@thecornexchange.org.uk)  
 • FEST 01480 385999 • Free Church 01480 468535 • Friends of Holt Island Nature Reserve [FOHINR@gmail.com](mailto:FOHINR@gmail.com)  
 • Methodist Church 01480 462293 • Norris Museum 01480 497314 or email [info@norrismuseum.org.uk](mailto:info@norrismuseum.org.uk)  
 • Town Team 01480 383612 [www.theoldriverportstives.co.uk](http://www.theoldriverportstives.co.uk)

### July

- 1 Farmers' Market Sheep Market 8.30 am - 2 pm
- 2 Music on The Waits 2.30 pm - 4 pm, Methodist Church with Freddie & Friends. A FEST event
- 8 St Ives Carnival Hill Rise Park 1 pm -10 pm. See Notice Board on page 14. A Carnival Committee event
- 9 St Ives Music Festival Hill Rise Park 12 noon - 9 pm A Carnival Committee event
- 9 Music on The Waits 2.30 pm - 4 pm, Methodist Church with Ouse Valley Jazz Band with Angela. A FEST event
- 12 Norris Museum Town Tours *A History of St Ives*, Meet at 6 pm at Oliver Cromwell statue. £4.00 per person booking advised
- 13 Farmers' Market Sheep Market 8.30 am - 2 pm
- 15 Town Council Surgery Outside Co-operative Supermarket, Burleigh Hill 10 am - 12 noon
- 15 Save our Spire Appeal COSI Concert with FEST. Free Church. 7.30 pm. Music from the Chamber Orchestra of St Ives. Tickets from Just Sharing or pay on the door
- 16 10k Race and Fun Run starts 9.45 am, race at 10.30 am. One Leisure Outdoor Centre, California Road
- 16 Music on The Waits 2.30 pm - 4 pm, Methodist Church with Somersham Town Band. A FEST event

### 23 Music on The Waits

2.30 pm - 4 pm, Methodist Church with Bedford Town Band. A FEST event

### 26 AGM Friends of Holt

Island Nature Reserve Corn Exchange 7.30 pm. Refreshments then talk on *The Amazing Life of Bats* and footage on *The Secret Life of the Island*. Non-members £3 on the door

### 28-29 Hunts Art Group Exhibition

Free Church 10 am - 3 pm. Free

### 29 *The Mill Wives of St Ives*

Play on The Quay. See page 6 and Town Team website above

### 29-30 Norris Museum Opening

Weekend 10 am - 4 pm both days, with activities around the town and in the Museum. (see pages 4-5)

### 30 Music on The Waits

2.30 pm - 4 pm, Methodist Church with Stella Hensley and Chris Newman. A FEST event

### August

### 5 Farmers' Market Sheep Market

8.30 am - 2 pm

### 6 Music on The Waits

2.30 pm - 4 pm, Methodist Church with So 80s. A FEST event

### 9 Norris Museum Town Tours

*Law Order and Disaster*. Meet at 6 pm at Oliver Cromwell statue. £4.00 per person booking advised

### 13 Music on The Waits

2.30 pm - 4 pm, Methodist Church with Manea Silver Band. A FEST event

### 16 Teddy Bears' Picnic

Norris Museum 10 am - noon. Bring your Teddy Bear and listen to a Teddy story from Marion Leaper. Free.

### 19 Farmers' Market Free Taster Day

Sheep Market 8.30 am - 2 pm

### 20 Music on The Waits

2.30 pm - 4 pm, Methodist Church with the Deeping Dixielanders. A FEST event

### 27 Music on The Waits

2.30 pm - 4 pm, Methodist Church. Band tbc. A FEST event

### September

### 2 Farmers' Market Sheep Market

8.30 am - 2 pm

### 2 St Ives Show

- Flower, Produce and Craft, Corn Exchange 12.15 pm - 3.30 pm. Details at [www.stivesshow.org.uk](http://www.stivesshow.org.uk)

### 13 Norris Museum Town Tours

*Back Streets of St Ives*. Meet at 6 pm in Church Street (north of All Saints Parish Church. £4 per person booking advised

### 16 Farmers' Market Sheep Market

8.30 am - 2 pm

### 24 Civic Sunday Parade and

Service Market Hill 12.30 pm. Parade leaves for service at All Saints Parish Church and returns for Mayor's inspection and march past

### 28 Old Riverport Jazz & Blues

Festival runs until 1 October. See page 6 and Town Team website above

# WHO DOES WHAT?

## YOUR LOCAL GOVERNMENT RESPONSIBILITIES

Has your local street light gone out? It is sometimes difficult to remember which level of our local government – Town, District or County Council – deals with each particular

responsibility. We hope that this guide steers you in the right direction. We take this opportunity to also list which of your local Councillors serve on which council.

### ST IVES TOWN COUNCIL

**Responsible for** The Waits, Warner's Park, Slepe Hall Field, Children's play equipment, Allotments, Seats, Cemeteries, Corn Exchange, Town Hall, Norris Museum, Public toilets, Statutory consultee for planning matters. Sponsor of the Town Team, actively supporting the economic development

and community well-being of St Ives.

SITC is currently composed of 17 Councillors who represent three wards. The composition of the Council is Independents 15, Conservatives 2.

**Your Councillors** Please note that all Town Councillors' email addresses are in the following style [Angela.Ayers-wilson@stivestowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:Angela.Ayers-wilson@stivestowncouncil.gov.uk). Details are correct at the time of printing.



Angela Ayers-Wilson



John Davies



Nick Dibben



Ian Dobson



Rianna D'Souza



Tim Drye  
Deputy Town Mayor



Ryan Fuller



Jon Hunt



Ian Jackson



Roger Kuch



Brian Luter



Jonathan Pallant



Phil Pope  
Town Mayor



Daniel Rowe



Jen Spencer



John Tiddy



Debbie Townsend



Allan Witherick  
Town Clerk

### HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

**Responsible for** Rubbish collection, Street cleaning, Planning and planning enforcement, Housing improvement grants, Environmental health, Licensing, Elections, Parks and open spaces, One Leisure Centre and Burgess Hall, Housing, Economic development, Car parks, CCTV, Tax collection, Standards Board, Countryside Services (Holt Island,

Wilhorn Meadow and the Thicket), Building control, Voluntary sector. Telephone 01480 388388 or visit [www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk](http://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk)

HDC is composed of 52 Councillors who represent 29 wards across the District. The current composition of the Council is Conservatives 32, UKIP 3, Liberal Democrats 6, Independents 2, Independent Conservatives 7, Labour 2.

### Your Councillors

Jason Ablewhite  
[Jason.Ablewhite@huntingdonshire.gov.uk](mailto:Jason.Ablewhite@huntingdonshire.gov.uk)

John Davies  
[John.Davies@huntingdonshire.gov.uk](mailto:John.Davies@huntingdonshire.gov.uk)

Angela Dickinson  
[Angela.Dickinson@huntingdonshire.gov.uk](mailto:Angela.Dickinson@huntingdonshire.gov.uk)

Ryan Fuller  
[Ryan.Fuller@huntingdonshire.gov.uk](mailto:Ryan.Fuller@huntingdonshire.gov.uk)

Deborah Reynolds  
[Deborah.Reynolds@huntingdonshire.gov.uk](mailto:Deborah.Reynolds@huntingdonshire.gov.uk)

### CAMBRIDGESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

**Responsible for** Education, Roads and traffic, Footpaths, Libraries, Social Services, Park and ride, Recycling, Street Lighting, Trading standards.

Telephone 0345 045 5200 or visit [www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk](http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk)  
CCC is composed of 61 councillors who cover the five District Council areas across Cambridgeshire.

The current composition of the Council is Conservatives 36, Independents 1, St. Neots Independent Group 2, Labour 7, Liberal Democrats 15

### Your Councillors

Kevin Reynolds  
[Kevin.Reynolds@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:Kevin.Reynolds@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)

Ryan Fuller  
[Ryan.Fuller@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:Ryan.Fuller@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)

*The Bridge* is published four times a year by St Ives Town Council. If your free copy isn't delivered to your home you can collect it from the Town Hall in Market Hill. The next Bridge will be published in November 2017. If you would like to suggest an item for publication please contact the Town Hall.

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FARMERS MARKET  
OF THE YEAR  
WINNER 2015



FARMERS MARKET  
OF THE YEAR  
WINNER 2015



GOLD AWARD  
WINNER 2016

