

St. Ives Local

May / June 2026

THE ST IVES BAY MAGAZINE

Here comes the sun



FREE ISSUE 68



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Welcome...

Spring morphs into summer this issue, and the visitors start to arrive en masse in St Ives Bay!

May sees the return of St Ives Food and Drink Festival, celebrating our great local produce, and with a strong line-up of local chefs demonstrating their skills over the new famous fire pit. Families will also enjoy the revival of the spring Boats in the Bay event, bring classic sailing vessels back to a harbour which is rich in maritime history.

Our feline mascot, Porthia, has been visiting family in Back Road West this issue, enjoying the artistic vibe. And there is such a lot of great art to see at the moment, in venues such as the Penwith and Porthminster galleries. Our cover image celebrates the classic (in these parts) combination of pasty and pint. May you find your perfect food and drink match in the sunshine!

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Visit stiveslocal.uk for increased amounts of regular news, and to see our online Business Directory. Give us a social media follow on Facebook, Instagram, Threads, and BlueSky, and listen out for the St Ives Local podcast on Apple and Spotify.

Liz and Darren Norbury

Editors

07444 199081 | hello@stiveslocal.uk



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There was another great turnout for the annual model boat sailing on Consols Pond, at the top of St Ives, on Good Friday. The occasion is now managed by the Friends of Consols Pond, a group of volunteers and adjacent landowners who make sure the water is weed free and navigable for the boats.

Stitch it – don't ditch it!

Bring a broken bike or a cushion coming apart at the seams to the Hayle Repair Café, and skilled volunteers will help you to give it a new lease of life.

The café, which is run by Sustainable Hayle, offers regular sessions at Hayle Day Care Centre. The next session, on Saturday 9th May, will also include a plant swap and a chance for local residents to learn more about soil health by bringing along a sample from their garden. For the June session, which will take place on the 13th, there will be a Mendathon, with the focus on restoring clothes and textiles.

Sustainable Hayle would like to create a banner bearing the message 'Stitch it, don't ditch it', and are inviting anyone attending the Mendathon event to bring some scraps of material which can be sewn onto the banner. Both the May and June events run from 10.30am, with free refreshments. Email hello@sustainablehayle.org

Connecting with nature in town

The Wellness Walled Garden at the Edward Hain Centre has been declared officially open, and local people are now being invited to visit a space which has been designed to help visitors unwind, reflect, and reconnect with nature.

At the Opening Day in April, guests were able to explore the garden at their own pace, spend time in the quiet seating areas and add messages of hope and encouragement to the Wellness Wish Tree.

They had the opportunity to enjoy tea and cake and a barbecue, buy plants, and take part in activities such as seed planting and pot and stone decorating. There was also a display of photos showing the restoration and transformation of the garden.

St Ives Mayor Johnnie Wells thanked everyone who had helped bring the scheme to

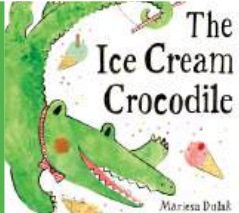
fruition. "It's great to see these previously unused areas of the Edward Hain Centre coming back to life," he said.

Nadine Tonner, Community Hub Officer at the centre, said: "This exciting new project has been made possible thanks to generous funding from the LHC Community Benefit Fund in association with Locality. We are extremely grateful for their support in helping bring this vision to life.

"We hope to support volunteer-led gardening and wellbeing sessions as interest grows, offering a calm, restorative environment for both Centre visitors and staff. The St Ives community will be welcome to garden quietly on their own, work alongside friends, or join small groups supporting the garden's upkeep, where they can learn new gardening skills."



Saturday 2nd May • 10:30 • £2
'The Ice Cream Crocodile' Book Launch
 Rebecca Cobb will be at the Cornerstone to celebrate the launch of their new book! Join us for a book reading, signing and fun creative workshop.



Thursday 28th May • 13:00 • Free - No Booking Required
'If the Invader Comes' Book Launch
 Children's author Tom Palmer joins us to celebrate the National Year of Reading and to launch his new book - a gripping Cornish wartime story for children.



Saturdays (9th, 23rd May & 13th June) • 10:00 • £6
St Ives Art Club
 Led by art teacher Peach, explore a different artist each week and experiment with new techniques in a space that allows members to try things with no expectations of outcomes.



Out and About...

Find us at community events around town! We'll be at:

- 15th - 17th May | **St Ives Food & Drink Festival** - Spot us in the Community tent and catch the *Guildhall Presents* artists on Sunday!
- 12th May & 9th June | **Toddle Tate**
- 30th May | **Boats in the Bay**



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Praise for marine volunteers

St Ives MP Andrew George has praised the work of volunteers who monitor and recover marine mammals stranded on local beaches. Andrew came across a common dolphin lying between the low and high tide marks on Gwithian Beach while he was out on an early morning run. He reported the sighting to Cornwall Wildlife Trust's Marine Strandings Network, which is supported by British Divers Marine Life Rescue. On his return run across the beach some time later, Andrew met Dan Jarvis from the Wildlife Trust, who had just arrived on the scene and was soon joined by other volunteers.

Sadly, as Andrew had suspected, the young female dolphin was already dead. She was surveyed and measured, before being moved from the beach for post-mortem. Dan believes the most likely cause of death was failure to thrive, as the dolphin showed no signs of trauma.

Andrew said: "Thank you to all those who do so much to ensure there's a better understanding of the cause of these upsetting strandings, so we can learn lessons which help to improve policy and management arrangements in the marine environment".

Date set for 2026 raft race, and it's open to all!

The annual Harbour Raft Race returns on 16th August, hosted once more by St Ives Pilot Gig Club.

An evening full of fun, mayhem, and mischief, it's open all — businesses, community groups, friends, locals, holidaymakers — so it's time to start planning those rafts now.

"We all love seeing all the raft names and listening to the stories of themes and costumes and hearing the building anecdotes," said Peter Berrima, of the Gig Club. "As before, the rafts crew can be made up of four to six persons plus a mermaid, and please do not get yourselves disqualified by using surf boards as the basis of your raft."

More details will be circulated in due course. Keep an eye on social media and posters, or email the club on pilotgigclubstives@gmail.com



The theme of this year's Hayle Summer Carnival on Saturday 13th June is Decades – Step Back in Time & Enjoy the Fun, which offers plenty of scope for everyone, whether they're interested in capturing the style of the '60s or the trends of the '20s (that's the 1920s!).

The carnival procession sets off from Hayle Recreation Ground at 6pm, and participants are welcome to assemble for setting up from 3.30pm. It will then travel through the centre of Hayle to Foundry Square and back to the recreation ground for prize giving. Categories include traditional floats, small and large walking groups, vintage/classic vehicles, and [people-powered wheels – bikes, skates and scooters.

To find out more visit haylecarnival.co.uk/ or [facebook.com/](https://www.facebook.com/haylecarnival)

Advertiser focus: By the Beagle

Penbeagle is once again home to a family-run convenience store, which is already making a difference to everyday life on the estate.

Tash and Ashley Wadley, the friendly faces behind the counter at By the Beagle, have three young children - so they know what it's like to have a busy family life, as well as running a business, and they have a clear vision of what they want their shop to supply to local people.

By the Beagle is stocked with essential food items, cleaning products, and all those little necessities we forget until we need them - whether it's a pint of milk or a birthday card. The shop has a fridge full of freshly-made sandwiches, and a hot food counter where you can grab a bacon roll for breakfast, or a



pasty or a hotdog at lunchtime. For everyone living in the Penbeagle area, it's very convenient to wander or drive over to the shop and pop in to buy what you need when you need it.

Tash and Ashley are proud to continue the tradition of the Penbeagle shop being more than a place to buy groceries. It is a vital hub of the community, where staff always have time for a nice chat, and dog walkers can stop for a catch-up outside.



Whether you work on Penbeagle Industrial Estate and you're looking for a quick lunch, a mum searching for something for the family tea, or you find it hard to carry heavy shopping up the Stennack, By the Beagle is here for you.

Tash and Ashley have exciting plans to expand the store - but like all businesses, its future depends on us to support it.

So pop along to By the Beagle and help ensure it remains a valued part of the community for years to come.

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Singers have raised so much for good causes

Local female singing group Cantiamo will be staging a concert at St Anta Church in Carbis Bay on Sunday 17th May, to raise funds for Cancer Research UK.

Cantiamo was formed 12 years ago by St Ives-born Jenni Thomas-Davey, and all members live in the Penwith area.

They see themselves as essentially a group of musical friends who love rehearsing and performing together. There is no musical director, as everyone contributes ideas and suggestions on how the pieces are to be performed.

Over the years, Cantiamo has raised thousands of pounds for various charities, but particularly Cancer Research UK, which they hold close to their hearts. The music they perform is eclectic and varied, with something to please every musical taste, including Elizabethan madrigals, much-loved folk songs, and classical pieces by Brahms and John Tavener.

Admission to the concert, which starts at 3pm, is free, with donations at the close of the afternoon. There will be refreshments – including homemade cake! – and a raffle. The concert will be repeated at St Hilary Church on Sunday 2nd August at 3pm, offering a second opportunity to support a good cause.

• For regular updates on local live music, check out stiveslocal.uk/whats-on



The Royal Cinema has re-opened in St Ives after a major refurbishment, involving new seating and updated toilets and air conditioning. Work was part-funded via a St Ives Town Deal grant.

Talland group 'set to fight on'

Cornwall Council has approved amendments to a planning application to build a block of 12 flats in front of Talland House, closely associated with Virginia Woolf. But campaigners are vowing to fight on.

Planning permission for the property was granted originally in 2009. The amendment, submitted to Cornwall Council, makes little change to the original plan, but does add some five feet to the height. Despite vocal opposition, the council's planning committee felt their hands were tied because of the approval of the original application.

Heritage horticulturalist Polly Carter — who is developing the gardens at Talland House with plantings referenced in Woolf's novels and memoirs — has worked alongside the Virginia Woolf Society of Great Britain to

co-ordinate opposition to the Windingbrook scheme.

"Our group raised legal challenge to the lawfulness of the application, and the particular points brought by our counsel remain unaddressed by Cornwall Council's legal department," she said on social media. They responded, but not to the particular points raised. "The situation is not resolved and we refuse to see the matter as closed until the building is up. We are considering opening this up to Judicial Review and are exploring other further options, too."

She added: "The Talland group is to be formalised and we plan on producing a website and events that celebrate the view and the meanings its embodies. Don't lose hope. We can continue to challenge this, and celebrate the view together."



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St Ives Farmers' Market

Fresh bread from Nancledra

It's a busy Monday morning at St Ives Farmers' Market and baker Aydin Ozdolek is talking a customer through the ingredients in his Turkish loaves.

His sourdough has already sold out, and focaccia supplies are low, so we grab one. It'll go nicely with a pasta meal later, featuring red peppers, and purple sprouting broccoli from fellow trader POM's grocery stall.

A chef previously, with stints at Tate St Ives and Polgoon Vineyard, Aydin's baking odyssey began 13 months ago, around the time of the birth of his first child, Aslan, after whom the bakery is named.

"He's growing up alongside the business," says Aydin, who lives with his partner Millie at Nancledra, in the house he grew up in. That's also home to the bakery, which is pretty much at capacity. There's also the danger of working from home with a growing family.

An encounter with an unseen baby toy on the floor led to a loss of several freshly-made Italian buns, Aydin recalls. A move to a bigger unit away from the house could be on the cards.

Aslan Bakery's products draw on Aydin's Turkish heritage, on his father's side, although the recipes have "a Cornish twist". There are three loaves regularly, plus a range of acma. Pronounced 'ashma', these light treats are similar to a brioche and can feature sweet ingredients, such as cinnamon and hazelnut, or take a savoury twist – Cheddar and olive on the day of our meeting.

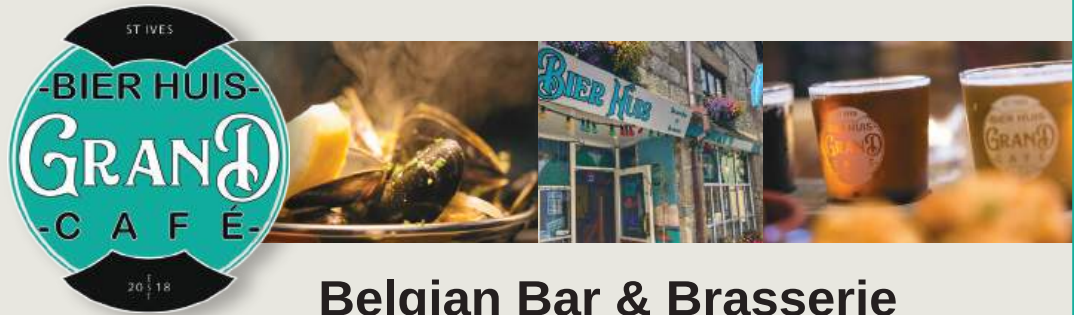
Completely self-taught, Aydin is working hard, but thoroughly enjoying the challenge, selling at St Ives and Hayle farmers' markets, as well as a number of less regular events. "When it's made yourself and you're proud of it, it's no chore," he tells me. All of his produce is



fresh on the day he sells it, and it's organic, made with flour supplied by Shipton Mill, who specialise in regenerative organic flour.

I'm a keen home baker, and while I'm not at Aydin's level by any stretch of the imagination, we both want to avoid additive-laden big-name brands. Say hello to him when you're next at the market and he'll tell you all about his processes. And find out more by searching for Aslan's Brewery on Facebook.

Darren Norbury




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Recipe | Braised Lamb Shank in red wine with root vegetables

Personally lamb shank is one of my favourite cuts of meat (writes Darren), and here St Ives Local chef Daniel Rouncefield suggests serving it with creamy mashed potatoes, buttered greens, or crusty bread to soak up the sauce. It serves 2-4. Prep time is 20 minutes, and cook time two and a half to three hours.

Ingredients

2 to 4 lamb shanks
2 tbsp plain flour
Salt and freshly-ground black pepper
2 tbsp vegetable oil
1 large onion, roughly chopped
2 carrots, peeled and cut into chunks
2 parsnips, peeled and cut into chunks
2 celery sticks, chopped
4 cloves of garlic, crushed
2 tbsp tomato purée
500ml red wine
500ml lamb or beef stock
2 sprigs fresh rosemary
2 sprigs fresh thyme
2 bay leaves

Method

Season the lamb shanks generously with salt and pepper, then lightly dust with flour. Shake off any excess.

Heat the oil in a large, heavy-based casserole dish over a medium-high heat. Sear the lamb shanks on all sides until deeply browned. Remove and set aside.

In the same pan, add the onion, carrots, parsnips, and celery. Cook for 8 to 10 minutes until softened and lightly coloured.

Stir in the garlic and tomato purée and cook for a further 2 minutes. Pour in the red wine, scraping up any browned bits from the bottom of the pan. Bring



to a simmer and reduce by about one third to concentrate the flavour.

Return the lamb shanks to the dish. Add the stock, herbs, and bay leaves. The liquid should come about three-quarters of the way up the meat.

Cover with a lid and cook in a preheated oven at 160°C (fan 140°C) for two and a half to three hours, or until the lamb is tender and falling off the bone.

Remove the lamb shanks and keep warm. Skim off excess fat from the sauce, then simmer on the hob if needed to thicken slightly. Adjust seasoning to taste. Serve the lamb shanks with the rich sauce spooned over the top alongside the braised

vegetables. Ideal with creamy mashed potatoes, buttered greens, or crusty bread to soak up the sauce.

And to drink? Surely, it's got to be a beer...

Yes, a logical move might be a red wine, but when there are so many great brewers locally, let's hear it for the beer, writes Darren Norbury.

I'd be plumping for a bottle of Best, a terrific 4.6% ABV best bitter from St Ives' Mine Brewing Co, or maybe getting a take-out of Brisons Best Bitter, made by Penzance Brewing Co, from The Star, at Crowlas.



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A Return to Cornwall – Helping Landlords with their Property Investments

by Karen Noy

After more than 25 years, I have returned to my roots in Cornwall. Originally from Penzance and a former pupil of Mount's Bay School, as well as a student at the Liz Nolan School of Dance, I am now proudly living back in Hayle and bringing a new style of property management to the area.

Like many landlords, the introduction of new regulations felt daunting, and I faced uncertainty like never before with my Cornwall properties. The landscape had changed dramatically. Increased compliance, shifting tax rules, and ongoing legislative reform made traditional letting feel more complex and less predictable than ever before.

Today, many landlords find themselves in the same position following the introduction of the Renters Reform Bill. Long-standing traditional letting that once felt stable is now being questioned, and many are unsure what the future holds for their portfolios. For some, the increased regulation has reduced flexibility. For others, it has affected profitability and long-term planning.

Moving my own properties from ASTs to serviced accommodation provided the solution — no voids, strong year-round income, higher returns, and properties kept in excellent condition. Instead of worrying about arrears, poor tenants, and



prolonged vacancies, I was able to operate with greater control and clearer visibility over performance. The model allowed me to adapt seasonally, respond to demand, and optimise income in a way that traditional letting simply could not offer.

While the new reforms target traditional letting and HMOs, serviced accommodation is not affected in the same way. This provides landlords with an alternative route — one that remains compliant, flexible, and commercially strong. It is not about avoiding regulation, but about choosing a model better suited to today's market conditions.

I have now run Signature Stays for several years with my sons, Dan and Myles, offering a full management service that takes care of everything — guest

communication, professional cleaning, dynamic pricing, listing optimisation, and high-quality photography. We treat every property as if it were our own because we understand the responsibility that comes with being a landlord.

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Boats in the Bay festival is revived

A vibrant day of activities both on and off the water will be launched in St Ives on the morning of 30th May, with the revival of the traditional Boats in the Bay festival. The event will bring together heritage vessels, working fishing boats and local organisations for a shared day of pride in the town's rich maritime heritage.

From the moment visiting boats begin to arrive in town by road, a sense of occasion is set to build around the harbour. Visitors can enjoy a lively shoreside programme, including family-friendly activities, traditional displays, and plenty of opportunities to soak up the atmosphere before the action moves out onto the water. The highlight of the day will be the spectacular parade of sail in the afternoon, as heritage vessels from the Jumbo Association take to the bay in a stunning display, followed by exciting sculling races in the harbour as the evening draws in.



Boats in the Bay is organised by St Ives BID. Business Liaison Office Catherine Cooper said: "It's about honouring our past, supporting our present fishing community, and celebrating the strength of St Ives as a working harbour town. We look forward to bringing the community together for a special day on the harbour."

Whether you're a lifelong resident or you're visiting for the weekend, Boats in the Bay promises to be a memorable celebration of St Ives' seafaring spirit.

Food and Drink Festival returns



St Ives Food and Drink Festival returns to Porthminster Beach from 15th-17th May. Central to the event is a programme of cooking demonstrations around the fire pit, with many local chefs taking part. These will include Ben Prior, of Porthminster Beach Cafe, Dorian Janmaat, of Ardor, and Natasha Osborne, of Bre Cafe.

But this is just part of a packed three days. You won't go hungry, with a huge line-up of food stalls, many local, celebrating some of Cornwall's finest produce.

There's entertainment for all ages, too, including children, and, of course, a strong programme of live music. Find out more at stivesfoodanddrinkfestival.co.uk

Below: Jack Stein is among the many guest chefs over the years





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Beyond the Blue: your local vets' guide to early summer

As the bluebells blossom in Steeple Woods and then give way to the golden gorse of early summer, the trek to Knill's Monument becomes the perfect escape from the heat of the harbour front. While we all enjoy the longer days, May and June bring our seasonal shifts for our St Ives pets.

The Summer "Stowaways"

With the bracken unfurling, the local tick population is at its peak. These hitchhikers love the long grass around the Steeple, and frequently target both dogs and cats roaming our harbourside gardens. We recommend a "nose-to-tail" check after every walk—focusing on ears, armpits, and under the chin. If you find a stowaway, using a proper tick-remover tool is the safest way to ensure they are fully removed.



Sun, Shade, and Small Furies

Our feline and rabbit friends are now spending much more time outdoors.

- **Cats:** As we open windows to catch the sea breeze, be mindful of "high-rise" safety on town centre ledges. Also, remember that white-eared cats can get sunburned; a bit of pet-safe sunblock goes a long way!
- **Rabbits:** May and June are unfortunately high-risk times of year for Myxomatosis, a serious viral disease that can be spread from the wild rabbit population. Ensure your bunnies are vaccinated and keep their hutches cool and shaded as the afternoon sun gains strength.

Summer Health Notes

- **The Granite Scuff:** St Ives paths act like natural

sandpaper. On warmer days, granite and tarmac can also hold onto the heat. Check your dog's "tread" after a climb to ensure their pads aren't becoming sore or overheated.

- **The Coastal Pantry:** Planning a summer picnic at the Monument? While it has to be jam first, obviously, keep the fruit scones to yourself. Raisins and currants are highly toxic to dogs and should be kept well out of reach.

Whether you're heading up for the 360-degree views at Rosewall or Trencom, or a cool swim in the sea stay safe and enjoy the early summer sun!

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Eleanor Hosken BVetMed CertAVP
PGCertVBM MRCVS and **Abigail Nicholls**
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St Ives Archive: A slave ship

by Jan Harris

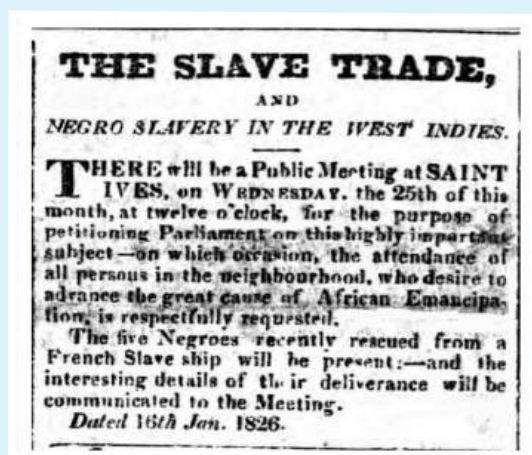
It may come as much of a surprise to you – as it did to me – to learn that many years ago, on 9th December 1825, a French brig carrying African slaves arrived in St Ives. This vessel, named *Perle*, and registered in St Malo, was heading homeward when a dreadful epidemic, together with extremely bad weather, caused it to take refuge in the nearest harbour – namely St Ives.

The ship had left Africa with 244 slaves, including 70 women and 30 to 40 children, who were to be taken to the West Indies. Sadly, only five of the slaves found on the boat on its arrival in St Ives were still alive. I cannot imagine how the ship was brought into the harbour, because not only had the majority of the “human cargo” died as the result of the epidemic, but so had the captain, the first and second lieutenants, the doctor, and five members of the crew, while another was extremely ill and confined to his bed.

One more crew member died in St Ives, and a newspaper article states that he was buried on the last day of the year. I intend to see if I can track down the grave which, presumably, is in Barnoon Cemetery. There can't be many French people buried in Barnoon on 31st December 1825. It is likely that the slaves and crew who had died on the ship were buried at sea.

The five surviving slaves were given clothes, and on Boxing Day, they were sent to London. They must have had a dreadful time in this country, as no-one could understand what they were saying, and no interpreter could be found to assist. They were lodged in the Hampstead Workhouse, where unfortunately they contracted measles, and two of them died.

The three survivors were released from slavery in February 1826. Two were taken – presumably willingly – to Sierra Leone, but the last one decided to stay in England. His name was Lewis Asasa. After working initially as a footman, Asasa became



a husband and father to several children and pursued a naval career until his death more than 40 years later, in 1869.

Back in 1825, news of what had befallen the *Perle* soon reached London, the base of the African Institution, which had originated as the Society for Effecting the Abolition of the Slave Trade. The *Perle* was subsequently impounded, and although the newspaper article states that it was ‘dismantled’, this probably meant that all the slaving equipment – eg manacles and shackles – was removed, as the brig was subsequently released back to her owners on 25th January 1826.

The article also states that the people of St Ives were deeply moved by these happenings, and held a meeting at the Calvinist Chapel (which, I am given to believe, is probably the Zion Chapel in Fore Street) to “petition the Legislature to abolish the slave-trade and to emancipate the slaves in the West Indies”.

The Slave Trade Act of 1807 had abolished the trade in Britain and her colonies, and also made it illegal to carry slaves in British ships, but it wasn't until 1st August 1834 that slavery was finally abolished.



St Ives Archive, established in 1996, holds over 35,000 photographs, and thousands of documents covering family history, maritime heritage, mining, industries, art, tourism, customs and more. We welcome visitors by appointment. Varying fees are charged for research, which you can conduct yourself or have our volunteers assist you. Please find our charges at stivesarchive.org/price-list. Our volunteers conduct research, and support much-needed fundraising. We're always looking for new volunteers to join our friendly team so please see stivesarchive.org/get-involved!

We've moved!

St Ives Archive is now at The Market House, Market Place, St Ives, TR26 1RZ. Tel: 01736 796408. We're open Tuesday to Friday, 10 am to 1.30 pm. Email admin@stivesarchive.org to book a visit and let us know your interests.

Registered charity number: 1136882



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Porthia the Cornish Cat:

A PAW-TRAIT BY THE HARBOUR

Meow! I'm Porthia, a silver-grey tabby cat named after my home town of St Ives! You can read about my adventures in every issue of St Ives Local.

The sun shone across the harbour, and the sea glistened around the boats as they bobbed about, their ropes gently rising and falling. On this spring morning, the scent of sea salt and daffodils wafted around the town.

"Porthia!" called out my broder (brother) Piran. He's named after the patron saint of tin miners –who's often now regarded as the patron saint of Cornwall as well – because he's du ha gwin (black and white), just like the Cornish flag.

Piran is very proud of his name, and he says it makes him special. Maybe that's why he has such a loud meow! When he meowed after calling my name, the sound echoed around the harbour as though he was shouting from under the arches at the edge of the beach.



Piran lives on Back Road West with an artist called Michael, and as the two of us padded down the pier, we saw him standing by his easel and staring out over the sea, his paintbrush in hand. "Aren't you two a bright pair this lovely morning?" said Michael in his soft Cornish voice. "You stay right there." And he started to paint us, which was very exciting. "Sit still, and don't wriggle!" said Piran, who often appears in Michael's paintings, so he knows exactly how to pose.

We relaxed in the sun while Michael concentrated on his work. When he'd finished, he held his painting out in front of him for a minute. He looked pleased as he came over to show it to us. There we were, captured in paint – Piran and me, with brightly-coloured boats in the background. Michael stroked us and we curled around his legs, with Piran meowing more loudly than ever!

With our tails held high, we pranced proudly down Back Road West and then cut down through the Sloop Craft Market, with its scents of wood and paint – and then we were hit by the wonderful smell of pysk hag asklos (fish and chips) from The Balancing Eel. We like to hang around outside looking cute, hoping people will toss a bit of fish to us, and today we were lucky! Mmm ... cod!





As we passed the Sloop Inn, we saw a familiar figure – a large white cat with ginger patches stretched out in the sunshine: our dad! We knew he'd be there, as it's his favourite sunbathing spot. "Hello Paw!" meowed Piran. Paw opened one eye, and then the other, slowly raised his head, and gave us a nod. Then he lay down again, and closed his eyes. Piran and I are so proud of Paw, the fastest and best catcher of rats and mice in St Ives. "I'll race you!" shouted Piran, who inherited Paw's speed, and is always keen to show it off.

He dashed off, and I chased after him, but boy, was he fast! I'm very impressed with how quick my brother is, and I'm sure Paw is too. We ran and played and tumbled through the streets of St Ives until the sun began to dip, and we stopped and watched the sky above changing colours, before starting to make our way back home.

Piran rubbed his head against mine, and then he darted up the steps to Back Road West to meet Michael. I strolled down to our cottage, where Kitty was looking out of the front window. As she saw me, her eyes lit up. I jumped up, squeezed through the window, and climbed onto Kitty's lap, folding my paws underneath me. "Have you had a busy day?" she asked, as she stroked my back. The last thing I remember seeing before I fell asleep is the sun slowly going down over the bay.

Oll an gwella!
Love from Porthia x



Porthia's Cornish corner

Each issue, our resident Cornish cat will be helping you to build your Kernewek vocabulary. Here are the words from her latest story:

- Du ha gwynn – black and white
- Broder – brother
- Pysk hag asklos – fish and chips
- Oll an gwella - all the best



Find Porthia and win a gift voucher!

Porthia's picture always appears on the front cover of St Ives Local, as well as in the advert for our podcast – but can you find her somewhere else inside the magazine?

Enter our prize draw to win a small gift from one of our local businesses.

The prize for this issue is a £10 voucher from Richards Farm Shop at Carwin Rise, Hayle, where you'll find fresh local produce, as well as a wide selection of gifts and treats.

Email hello@stiveslocal.uk by 12th June, with the heading 'Porthia competition', and tell us where she's hiding.

The winners of the March/April competition were Laura Le Masurier and her little boy, Arthur, who win a book token donated by St Ives Bookseller.



Please mention **St. Ives Local** when contacting advertisers

What's On May & June

MONDAYS

Little Ones at the Bridge
Toddler cafe and baby cafe at The Bridge
Penpol Terrace. Toddler cafe from 9.30-10.30am in term time. Baby cafe from 10.45-11.45. Both are free
haylelightandlife.co.uk/little-ones

Beachfit

Outdoor fitness sessions on the beach, Hayle, 9.15am. beachfitcornwall.com

Pilates

Carbis Bay, 9.30am, £7. Suitable for beginners and those struggling with pain or long-term conditions.
Email beachsidephysio53@gmail.com or phone 07376 601061

Iyengar yoga

At St Ives Library, 9.30-11am. Drop-in session, all levels welcome. £10.

St Ives Farmers' Market

At the Island Centre, 9.30am-2pm.

Wild Tiddlers

Baby and toddler group, weekly in term time, 10am-11.30am, in St John's Church vicarage garden. All under-fives welcome, no need to book.
stiveschurch.org.uk

Hayle Memory Cafe

At Hayle Rugby Club, first and third Mondays of the month, 2-4pm. For people with memory problems, their families, and carers. Activities, plus tea and cakes. Free (but donations welcome). More information on 07513 221066.

Carbis Bay Contract Bridge Club

Carbis Bay Memorial Hall, 2-5pm. A friendly local group — beginners welcome. £3 per session. More information from Graham on 01736 762512 or visit carbisbaybridge.co.uk

Crochet and Craft Group

At the Edward Hain Centre, 3-4.30pm. For the complete beginner or an experienced crafter who may be happy to share their skills with others. Free refreshments. Under-14s must be accompanied by an adult.

Brownies

At St Ives Salvation Army, Wharf Road,

4.30-6pm. Information on 01736 797746.

St Ives Community Foodshare

Pick up surplus food at the Mike Peter Estate car park, St Ives TR26 2FS, 5.30pm. kevrennastives.co.uk/foodshare

Needles and Pins

St John's Church Hall, 7-9pm. A group of sewers who meet each week to chat, drink tea, and work on individual designs or group projects.

Christian Meditation

At the Lady Chapel, St Ia Church, 7.30-8.15pm. Visitors and newcomers welcome.

Liz's Quizzes

At The Castle, Fore Street, St Ives, 8pm. Booking is advised via the St Ives Liz's Quizzes Facebook group.

Local Vocalz

At Hayle Methodist Church, 7.30pm. A friendly 60-strong mixed four-part choir, singing popular songs, from classics to pop. No audition necessary. First month free. Email Taylor London at localvocalzinfo@gmail.com or call 07711 781602.

Bellringing practice

At Towednack Church, 7.30-9pm. New and returning ringers always welcome. Excellent tuition available. For more information, email marypjones50@gmail.com or phone 01736 794750.

TUESDAYS

Beachfit

Outdoor fitness sessions on the beach in Hayle, 6.45am. beachfitcornwall.com

Move It Or Lose It

At Carbis Bay Memorial Hall. 9.30am, Yogascape, 30minutes of yoga to music. 10.15am, Dance Fitness, 55 minutes. 11.15, Move It Or Lose It, seated exercise designed for the over-60s. **To book, phone 07719 700993 or email martha.huntley@moveitorloseit.co.uk**

St John's in-the-Fields

Morning prayer, 9am.
stiveschurch.org.uk

Friends of The Towans

A friendly group of volunteers carrying out practical conservation tasks, 10am-2pm. All welcome. friendsofthetowans.org.uk

St Ives Community Orchard

Volunteer to help look after 30 acres of land, 10am-noon. stivesorchard.co.uk/ volunteer

Core Community Cafe

At St Ives Community Orchard, 10.30am-1pm. Affordable vegetarian food and drink. If you volunteer for the working party (above), your lunch is free. stivesorchard.co.uk/core-community-cafe

Barnoon Arts

Watercolours. Weekly standalone class, 10.30am-12.30pm. barnoonarts.uk

St Ives Community Foodshare

Pick up surplus food at The Core, St Ives Community Orchard, 12.30pm. kevrannastives.co.uk/foodshare

St Ives Knitting Group

Cafe Art, Royal Square, St Ives, 3.30pm-5pm. Come along for a knit and a natter — all welcome.

Salvation Army

Meal and worship at the Wharf Road base, 5pm. salvationarmy.org.uk/st-ives

Stammtisch German-speaking Group

Meets once a month (not always on the same Tuesday) at Wesr Cornwall Golf Club. For details, email bjweinberg@gmx.de

St John Ambulance

Meet at St John in-the-Field Church, 6-8pm in term time, for five- to 18-year-olds. sja.org.uk

1st St Ives Cubs

Meet from 6.30-8pm at Ayr Field, St Ives, during term time.

St Ives Bay Community Choir

Rehearsals from 6.30-8.30pm at Carbis Bay Memorial Hall. New members always welcome. Auditions not required, just enjoy singing. For information, phone Linda on 01736 796832/07871 805526, email sichoira@btinternet.com or visit stivescommunitychoir.org.uk



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www.endrianyoga.com

Hayle Lions

Meet at 7pm, second Tuesday of the month, at the Passmore Edwards Institute. Supporting the community with local and individual issues. If you think you can help, pop along to a meeting. e-clubhouse.org/sites/hayle

St Ives Jazz Club

Western Hotel, St Ives, 7.30pm. Guest bands every second Tuesday. Big Kettle Jazz (live music) every other Tuesday. facebook.com/stivesjazzclub

WEDNESDAYS

Little Ones on the Beach

9.30-10.30am in term time. Fresh air and a chance to play in the dunes while making new friends. haylelightandlife.co.uk/littleones

Beachfit

Outdoor fitness sessions on the beach, Hayle, 9.15am. beachfitcornwall.com

Pilates

Carbis Bay, 9.30am. See Monday.

Steeple Woodland Nature Reserve

Work party. All welcome to take part in light exercise with like-minded people. Meet by wooden gate on Steeple Lane at 9.30am. Tools and gloves provided. Wear clothing suitable for the conditions. More details from Giles on 07527 287543, at steeplewoods.org and on Facebook.

Artisan Market

At the Island Centre, 10am-4pm.

Barnoon Arts

Sketchbooking St Ives. Outdoor sketching around town. 10.30am-12.30pm. barnoonarts.uk

St Ives Community Foodshare

At St John's in-the-Fields Church, 10.30am-12.30pm. A social place to chat, play board games, swap clothes, and share recipes, skills, and recycling ideas. kevrannastives.co.uk/foodshare

Rhyme Time

At St Ives Library, 10.45am. Music, singing, and stories for pre-school children.

Ukelele Club

At St Ives Arts Club, 1-5pm. Email Steve at swmlither@btinternet.com if you're interested in learning the ukelele.

Welcome Wednesdays

At St John's in-the-Fields, 2-4pm. A warm, safe space to come to.

Hayle Canoe Club

Club nights from April-September, 6pm, at North Quay, opposite Gilbert's. For details, email chairman@haylecanooclub.co.uk

1st St Ives Beavers

Meet from 6.30-7.45pm at Ayr Field, St Ives, during term time.

Liz's Quizzes

At the Bird in Hand, Hayle, 7.30pm. Booking is advised via the St Ives Liz's Quizzes Facebook group.

Global Wednesdays

At the Western Hotel, St Ives, 8.30-11pm. All welcome to an evening of jams and performances celebrating global music.

THURSDAYS

Iyengar yoga

At Carbis Bay Memorial Hall, 9.15am, general class; 5.30pm, beginners; 7.30pm, general/intermediate class. To book, text **07817 968036**. Information at lucyaldridge.com

Pilates

9.30am, Carbis Bay. See Monday.

Yoga and Yoga Dance

A relaxing class which helps flexibility, designed for the over-40s. Taught by Khalid Beg in Carbis Bay, 10am. Phone **01736 757919** or visit endrianyoga.com

CAMEO (Come and Meet Each Other)

10am-12.30pm at Fore Street Methodist Church, St Ives. Free

refreshments (donations to charity).

Barnoon Arts

Draw St Ives. See St Ives in a different light. 10.30am-noon. barnoonarts.uk

Table Tennis for the over-50s

At the Island Centre, St Ives, 10.30am. Phone 07887 368191 or visit u3astives.co.uk

Carbis Bay Coffee and Lunch Club

Coffee mornings on the second Thursday of the month, and a lunch on the first Thursday. All welcome. Information from Dinky Kennedy on **07814 574438**.

St Ives Memory Cafe

At Carbis Bay Memorial Hall, 2-4pm, on the first and third Thursdays of each month. Music, entertainment etc. Phone **07999 239865**.

Carbis Bay Scout Group

Cubs and Scouts meet at Fenton Hall, Porthrepta car park, Carbis Bay. To find out times, phone Jan White on **07776 328229** or email janmack56@hotmail.com

St Ives Community Foodshare

Pick up surplus food at St Ives Rugby Club, 5.30pm. kevrannastives.co.uk/foodshare

St Ives Bridge Club

At St John's in-the-Fields Church Hall, 6.30pm. Phone Jim Barker on **01736 794134** or visit bridgewebs.com/stives

Meor Voices

Meeting Thursdays during term time at The Western Hotel, St Ives, 7-8.15pm. A female choir singing a mixed repertoire. Contact Toni on **07976 704979**.

Core-Chestra Music Collective

At The Core, St Ives Community Orchard, 7-9pm. For novice and experienced musicians, all levels, all voices, all instruments. stivesorchard.co.uk/core-chestra

Cafe Frug

A variety of performers and formats, compered by Bob Devereux, first Thursday of the month at St Ives Arts Club. 7.30pm (doors open 7.15pm). £4 (£2 members) on the door. Alternative Folk Thursdays 8.30-11pm in the Kettle 'n' Wink bar of the Western Hotel, St Ives.

**FRIDAYS
Beachfit**

Outdoor fitness sessions on the beach, Hayle, 9.15am. beachfitcornwall.com

Pilates

Carbis Bay, 9.30am. See Monday.

Toddlers Group

At the Salvation Army, Wharf Road, St Ives, 9.30am. Information on 01736 797746.

Chair Yoga

At the Edward Hain Centre, 10-11am. Visit roottraining.co.uk to book. Call 07375 606015 or email tracey.rootyoga@gmail.com

Penderleath Community Woodland

Work session 10am-noon at Penderleath Community Woodland, near Crippleseat. All welcome. Park at Giew Mine and cross the road. On the first Saturday of the month the session switches to that day (2-4pm). No Friday session that week.

Hayle Farmers' and Craft Market

At Phillack Church Hall, 10am-1pm.

Coffee Morning

At St Ives Arts Club Theatre, 11am-12.30pm. Third Friday of each month. Open to all members and their guests.

Craft Hive

At St Ives Library, second Friday of the month, 11am-1pm. £3. Bring your work in progress and enjoy a cuppa, craft, and a chat.

Friday Arts Club

At St Ives Arts Club, 1-3.30pm. £1.50 per session. Members only.

Trencrom Ladies' Club

At Lelant Village Hall on the second Friday of each month, 2-4pm. Time for tea and a chat after talks. All welcome. Members £1, visitors £3. 01736 753720.

St Ives Community Foodshare

Pick up surplus food at the Palemon Best car park, St Ives, 5.30pm. kevfannastives.co.uk/foodshare

Youth Club

At 7.30pm, St Ives Salvation Army, Wharf Road. 01736 797746

Songwriters' Open Mic Fridays

8.30-11pm in the Kettle 'n' Wink bar of the Western Hotel, St Ives.

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SATURDAYS

Friends of St Ives | Library (FOSIL)

Super Saturdays on the first Saturday of every month, in St Ives Library, from 10am to noon. Different theme every month. All welcome.

Barnoon Arts

Draw St Ives. See St Ives in a different light, from 10.30am-noon. barnoonarts.uk

Coffee morning

At St Ives Salvation Army, Wharf Road, 10.30am-1pm.

Bellringing

In the tower of St Uny Church, Lelant, 11am-12.30pm. Practices on the first and third Saturdays of the month. Come and have a taster session. All welcome, from age 10 to 80-plus (children must bring a parent or guardian). More info on 10736 793201.

St Ives Sailing Club

Meet 12.30pm at the sailing pen (Sloop car park). Dinghies available for experienced sailors. Novices welcome. stivessailingclub.com

SUNDAYS

St Ia Church

Holy Communion, 8am (second and fourth Sunday of the month). 9.45am. Sung Eucharist, every Sunday.

Bible Christian Fellowship

An independent evangelical fellowship. Meeting at 10.15am at Back Road West, St Ives TR26 1NE. biblechristianfellowship.co.uk

St John's in-the-Fields

Morning service, 11.15am. Wild Church, a service for all ages, 3pm.

Hope Community Church

Morning service, 10.30am, at Lelant Community Hall. hopestives.org
Fore Street Methodist Church Morning service, 10.30am. All welcome. William Thomas 01736 799762.

Hellesveor Chapel

Regular service 10.45am every Sunday. A warm and friendly welcome given to all. Free parking and disabled access. The chapel's postcode is TR26 3AD.

St Ives Community Orchard and Nature Reserve

Volunteer to help look after 30 acres of land, 11am-1pm. stivesorchard.co.uk/volunteer

St Ives Community Foodshare

Pick up surplus food at St Ives Rugby Club, 11.30am. kevrannastives.co.uk/foodshare/

Hayle Methodist Church

Messy Church for children of all ages, to be accompanied by an adult. From 3.30-5.30pm on the first Sunday of the month. Craft, activities, food, and fun.

OTHER EVENTS

Beltane, May Blessings event

3rd May: At St Ives Community Orchard, 2-5pm. Free event. Celebrate the fertility of the land. Live music, Maypole dancing, seed and plant swap, fire, refreshments. stivesorchard.co.uk/beltance-celebrations

Choir Concert

4th July: A Capella and Chatterpipes at St Johns in-the-Fields, St Ives, 7.30pm. English choral music from across the ages, and music for recorder consort.

Charity Concert

17th May: Cantiamo in concert at St Anta Church, Carbis Bay, 3pm, in aid of Cancer Research UK. Admission free, donations welcome, refreshments.

Flower Festival

2nd-4th May: At St Ia Parish Church, 10am-4pm. Including musical concerts and recitals. Proceeds to RNLI, Edward Hain, and the St Ia organ restoration fund.

May Day

4th May: Celebrations around St Ives, including Maypol dancing.



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Open Gardens

The gardens of artists participating in Open Studios. **2nd May and 6th June:** Trelan, findagarden.ngs.org.uk/garden/44588/trelan. Throughout May and June by arrangement: Tresithney findagarden.ngs.org.uk/garden/45664/tresithney

Repair Factory

9th May: At The Core, St Ives Community Orchard, 1-4pm. Repair broken or cherished items, guided by skilled volunteer repairers, and pick up new skills. All welcome. Free to attend, and free repairs.

Secret Gardens of St Ives

20th and 21st June: A route of gardens, including Talland House. In aid of St Ives Community Fund and St Ives Foodshare. Tickets, £7.50 (valid both days, under-16s free) from Colenso's, Gabriel Street.

St Ives Old Cornwall Society

11th May: Talk on St Ives Amateur Operatic Society, 1946-2006, by Tony Mason. **23rd June:** Midsummer Bonfire at Carnstappa Hill. Normal meetings at Carbis Bay Memorial Hall, 7pm. Annual membership £10, casual attendance £3.

St Ives U3A

5th May: Phil Burnett talks on his life. **2nd June:** Musical entertainment from Folke Tails. Meetings are at Carbis Bay Community Hall, 2pm.

Secret Gardens of Lelant

7th June: 11am to 4pm. Tickets from the Badger Inn from two weeks beforehand. However, the details of the event had not been confirmed at the time of going to press.

Email events for our next issue (July and August) to hello@stiveslocal.uk by 4th June.

What's On: Art

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Street-an-Pol, St Ives TR26 2DS

LEACH POTTERY

The museum and exhibition spaces are undergoing restoration work until November, as part of a major transformation of the Leach Pottery site. Visit the website for news of online exhibitions.

leachpottery.com

Higher Stennack, St Ives TR26 2HE

NEW CRAFTSMAN GALLERY

2nd-18th May

Sophie Harding and Ria Poole

newcraftsmanstives.com

24 Fore Street, St Ives TR26 1HE

PENWITH GALLERY

8th May-6th June

David Moore

Belerion: The Shining Land

12th June-15th August

Members Summer Exhibition

12th June-11th July

Glyn Walton

Karen McEndoo, Aidan Hicks, Rod Walker, Kinsley Byrne

penwithgallery.com

Back Road West, St Ives TR26 1NL

ST IVES ARTS CLUB

2nd-8th May

Janie Cameron

9th-15th May

Jo Grant

6th-22nd May

Alan Holmes

23rd-29th May

Wendy Litherland

30th May-5th June

Zoe Eaton

6th-12th June

Sarah Armstrong

13th-19th June

Mandy Kness

20th-26th June

Vicki Clark

27th June-3rd July

Lisa Cooper

stivesartsclub.org

Westcotts Quay, St Ives TR26 2DY



Aleksandra Kasuba's Spectrum, An Afterthought.
Photograph: Antanas Lukšėnas

ST IVES MUSEUM

Until October

Making Waves: Representational Art in St Ives, 1930-1960

A celebration of the work of the artists who lived in the town during the changing times of the mid-20th century.

stivesmuseum.co.uk

Wheal Dream, St Ives TR26 1PR

ST IVES SOCIETY OF ARTISTS

1st May-12th June

Spring Open Exhibition in the Mariners Gallery

25th June-4th September

Summer Members' and New English Arts Club exhibition

stisa.co.uk

Norway Square, St Ives TR26 1NA

TATE ST IVES

2nd May-4th October

Aleksandra Kasuba: Shelters for the Senses

The first UK museum exhibition of the work of Aleksandra Kasuba. The exhibition spans seven decades of work, exploring Kasuba's artistic journey, from her early paintings and mosaics to her later sculptures and architectural designs. Her love of the natural world is clear throughout her work, which was often inspired by the shapes and forms of nature, such as shells, rocks, vegetation and marine life.

Until 4th October

Halima Cassell

Sculptural forms carved with intricate geometric patterns that play with light and shadow

tate.org.uk/visit/tate-st-ives

Porthmeor Beach, St Ives TR26 1TG

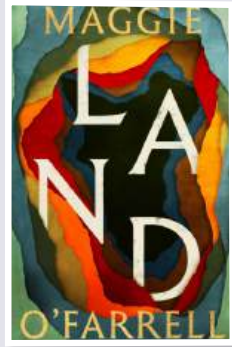
ST IVES BOOKSELLER

Book Review

by Alice Harandon, manager of St Ives Bookseller

Land by Maggie O'Farrell
£25 (published 2nd June)

The year is 1865, and in a country not long since ravaged and emptied by the Great Hunger, Tomas and his son are working for the great Ordnance Survey project to map the whole of Ireland. A story of buried treasure, overlapping lives, ancient woodland, persistent ghosts, a particularly loyal dog, and how, when it comes to both land and history, nothing ever goes away.



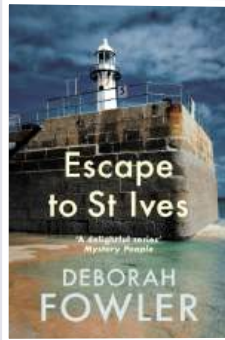
glorious full coloured illustrations. Illustrated watercolours are accompanied by handwritten notes about each place, including historical details and personal notes.

The Apothecary by the Sea: A Year in an Orkney Garden by Victoria Bennett
£16.99

Victoria sets out to transform her scrappy backyard into an abundant apothecary garden, inspired by Orkney's folklore, ancient landscapes and wild nature. Shaped by tides and storms, wild plants and seaweeds, she



creates a biodiverse backyard sanctuary filled with micro-habitats, wildflowers and herbs to craft teas, tinctures and balms inspired by the surrounding soil and seas.



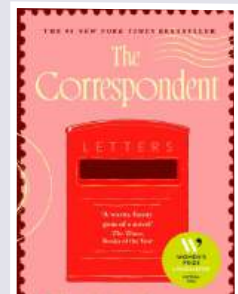
Escape to St Ives
by Deborah Fowler
£22 (published 18th June)

When Annie Eustace sails into St Ives, she instantly turns heads. Glamorous, wealthy and generous to a fault, she quickly befriends Merrin, former solicitor now with a fledgling shop on vibrant Fore Street. But Annie's

stories don't always add up...

The Correspondent
by Virginia Evans
£9.99 (published 11th June)

A warm and funny book, now in paperback, all told through letters from its septuagenarian protagonist to her family and friends. An unforgettable character!



My Cornish Sketchbook
by Susannah Garland
£22

Follow Susannah as she travels around Cornwall visiting the towns and villages and capturing everything she sees in



St Ives Bookseller, 2 Fore Street, St Ives, TR26 1AB.
The shop is open seven days a week. Books can be ordered, and are often delivered in 24 hours.
Tel: 01736 796676;
email: stivesbookseller@mabecronbooks.co.uk;
X: @stivesbooks

Art | Trevor Price, Porthminster Gallery

Printmaker Trevor Price has launched his new exhibition at Porthminster Gallery, in St Ives, and it highlights very different aspects of his work.

As one enters the Fore Street gallery, *Let's Go And Live By The Ocean*, a majestic woodcut print on paper, captures the sight. One of a series of 75 prints, it captures sunrise across St Ives Bay, looking towards Godrevy, and exemplifies the current strand of Price's work.

Further into the gallery, studies of the Barbara Hepworth garden, just up the road, are full of intricate detail, delivering an almost photographic quality from a distance. But it's all precise hand-made work. Phone photography provides the initial scene for reference. The rest is long, painstaking studio work.

Contrast this with seaside views from St Ives properties, with playful, semi-abstract, cavorting naked couples in the foreground. The same artist? Surely not. But yes, another aspect, another time.

Born in Cornwall, Trevor studied printmaking at Falmouth and Winchester schools of art. He became an elected member of the Royal Society of Painter-Printmakers in 1994, and served as its vice-president from 2013 to 2018.

His work is held in various collections, including the Victoria and Albert Museum in London, the Ashmolean Museum in Oxford, the Fitzwilliam Museum in Cambridge, Guangdong Museum of Art, China, Yinchuan Contemporary Art Museum China, Yale University, USA, The Office of Public Works in Dublin, and The Bank of England.

In 2020, he undertook a large relief print commission by China's National Academy of



Painting, which was exhibited at China's National Art Museum, in Beijing, and then toured the country. He has won several national printmaking awards, with the most recent being the Viking Prize for Print at the Royal Academy of Arts Summer Exhibition 2025 and the Printmaking Today Award at the Royal Society of Painter Printmakers 2017 exhibition.

He shares his time between a studio close to Tower Bridge in London and his studio in St Ives.

Art | Ria Poole at the New Craftsman

Ria Poole has a new collection going on show at the New Craftsman Gallery, St Ives, from 2nd-18th May.

Ria is a contemporary painter living and working in West Cornwall. Her work is intimately situated in the Cornish landscape, where she paints en plein air in all weathers, sometimes in hard-to-reach locations to enable her to capture the most interesting perspectives. The expressive abstraction of her studio work is playfully unbound, embracing a range of techniques and media, celebrating colour and painterliness. She is a member of St Ives Society of Artists, and her paintings have been



shortlisted for various art prizes, including Creates Emerging Artist Award 2020, Black Swan Open Art Prize 2019, and Artists and Illustrators Artists of the Year Award 2018.

Art | Andrew Litten at Anima Mundi



Andrew Litten, a distinctive voice in British contemporary art, has a new exhibition – Unknown Futures: Hope, Longing, Grief, and Other Distortions – at Anima Mundi until 15th May. Born in Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire, in 1970, Litten found the rigid structures of art college too restrictive as a teenager, and left to walk a self-taught path.

For the following decade, he dedicated himself to creating small-scale works crafted from humble domestic and found materials, such as envelopes and assembled furniture parts. This period was a deliberate challenge to the concepts of art elitism and the commodity of the art object, establishing a raw, subversive philosophy that continues to underpin his practice.

A pivotal shift occurred in 2001 when Litten moved to Cornwall and began to exhibit his work publicly. He achieved rapid critical success when his paintings were included in the Nudes exhibition in New York city, alongside masters such as Jacob Epstein and Pierre Auguste Renoir. His contribution was singled out for review by the New York Times.

This was followed by four consecutive solo exhibitions at Goldfish Fine Arts, in Penzance, each accompanied by a dedicated publication. His reputation for bold 'anti-art statements' was further solidified during Frieze Art Week 2007 at London's Vyner Street, where he exhibited the emphatic work Dog Breeder as part of the Move exhibition. Litten's presence in major institutions grew throughout the following decade, notably with his inclusion in No Soul For Sale at the Tate

Modern Turbine Hall in 2010. By 2012, he was holding major solo exhibitions at Millennium in St Ives and L13 Light Industrial Workshop in London, as well as large-scale shows at Spike Island and Motorcade FlashParade in Bristol.

His reach has since become global. His work has been featured in exhibitions from Berlin and Siena to Canberra and New York, including the 54th Venice Biennale. Furthermore, his paintings have been exhibited in the National Museum of Poland and across four major museums in China. Most recently, his work was showcased in the 2024 Radical Expression exhibition in Belgium, alongside Frank Auerbach and George Grosz.

In recent years, Litten has balanced his studio practice in Fowey with a deep commitment to public outreach and education. With support from the Arts Council UK, he conceived the 2018 exhibition Ordinary Bodies, Ordinary Bones at Anima Mundi. His advocacy for mental health is a cornerstone of his recent work, including a life-size bronze created for the Samaritans charity at the Chelsea Flower Show in 2023, as well as collaborations with Cornwall Mind and an NHS suicide bereavement project at Tate St Ives. Today, he remains a vital figure in the arts community as a member of the Contemporary British Painting Group and a frequent educator at the Newlyn School of Art and Plymouth Art College University. His work is held in numerous private and public collections worldwide, and he is represented by Anima Mundi.

Advertiser focus | The Clay Corner

When Hannah and Lou (pictured top right) met in The Badger pub, Lelant, 14 years ago, their relationship was all about babysitting, Hannah becoming 'Aunty' to Lou's young family. But Hannah has been training in ceramics, currently on a degree course, and slowly the pair developed the concept of Clay Corner, based in Hayle's Foundry Chapel building.

The venture has tapped into a demand for new leisure experiences, for both locals and visitors, and involves painting bisque pottery, that is unmarked pottery which has undergone one initial firing. What happens next to these ceramic 'blank canvases' is entirely up to Clay Corner's visitors. One can paint freehand and let the imagination soar, or, for those not so artistically talented, make use of templates and stencils for great effects.

From plates, mugs, and vases, to more elaborate tealight



holders, piggy banks, and animal characters, there's a huge, growing range of ceramic pieces to choose from. One can book in individually for a painting session, even walk in, but it's by and large a group activity, suitable for all ages. From kids' birthday parties, to hen groups, Lou and Hannah have welcomed many, and demand keeps growing. The pieces, once painted, are then glazed

and kilned away from the chapel. People can then pop back and pick up their finished works.

Check out the website theclaycorner.co.uk to see current opening hours, and to read about upcoming events, such as a recent Stranger Things-themed night, or events at other locations, such as St Ives' Harbour Hotel. And pop into the studio for gift cards and take-away kits, too!

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Out on the Towans

An explosive discovery

The National Explosives Works at Upton Towans is a fascinating feature of the dunes, and Friends of the Towans always enjoy working there.

Although nature has largely claimed the buildings at the site, it's not difficult to imagine what it would have been like when the Explosives Works was a powerhouse of the First World War and a major employer in Hayle. Our main task during our recent visits to Upton Towans was to clear invasive plant species such as red valerian and buddleia, but volunteers Mike Alexander and Les Stockton were also keen to uncover a blast wall which was once part of the Explosives Works.

Mike first became aware of the existence of the wall from photos on a website https://www.qsl.net/2e0waw/upton_towans.htm created by Andrew Westcott, who has long been interested in the site. To find the wall, Mike and Les used two photos – one taken by Andrew in 2016 and the other dated from more than 100 years earlier, in 1909. Neither picture suggested the scale of the wall, and it was a surprise to Mike and Les when they started uncovering it to discover that it is 30ft long, 5ft high and 1ft wide.

The wall is made of large scoria blocks, much like the Black Bridge on Hayle Estuary. Scoria is furnace slag, and it's produced as part of the



copper ore smelting process. The concrete block as the wall's base is similar to many found in the traverses – bunkers – around the Towans. The traverses were built at some distance from each other, so that if one building exploded, the power of the explosion was forced upwards and surrounding buildings were more likely to survive.

In this case, two traverses were built close together which may have been an oversight – hence the need for the blast wall between them. The 1909 photo shows a nitrocotton drying store, to the left of the wall, which was destroyed in 1916. Two employees, James Cock and James Perry, were killed, even though they were not in the building at the time, so the traverse did not save them. Two others, May Stoneman and Cissie Rodgers, died in the building and are buried at Phillack Church. The wall has witnessed a lot.

Mike hopes to add the ongoing site project work to Andrew Westcott's website, and Les is planning some drone photography. The newly-uncovered wall has attracted the attention of passers-by while Friends of the Towans have been working on the site, and Mike is enjoying passing on what he describes as his still limited knowledge.

Join us out on the Towans! Find out more about our activities at www.friendsofthetowans.org.uk, on Facebook, and by email:
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Liz's Quizzes

Here's Liz Noall with her quiz! As well as trying these questions, you can catch Liz live every week around St Ives and Hayle. Find out where she will be via St Ives Liz's Quizzes on Facebook, where you can also keep up with her fundraising total, from quizzes and online draws. She has raised tens of thousands of pounds for good causes!



1. What colour ink was traditionally used by Roman emperors for important documents?
2. In the computing term GUI, what does the letter I stand for?
3. In which year of the 1920s was the Wall Street Crash?
4. Known as the 'Harrods of the North', Jenners department store is in which Scottish city?
5. Michaelmas Day is celebrated in which month of the year?
6. John of Gaunt was the father of which (numerically) King Henry?
7. For the third time in a row, Italy recently failed to qualify for the FIFA World Cup, by losing to which country?
8. 'Boom boom' was the catchphrase of which puppet fox?
9. Which five-letter word describes social media content that spreads rapidly?
10. On which continent is the country of Tunisia?
11. How many films did the actor James Dean appear in?
12. In children's TV, if Tag was a mouse, and Bobtail a rabbit, what sort of animal was Rag?
13. In which year did Prince William marry Kate Middleton?
14. The hallmark of shoes designed by Christian Louboutin is soles of which colour?
15. What colour are school buses in the USA?
16. Which two gases combine to form ammonia?
17. The controversial Michael O'Leary is the outspoken CEO of which airline?
18. Which Spanish city shares its name with a bitter orange which is used to make marmalade?
19. Stewart Island is the third largest island of which country?
20. 'The Swoosh' is the name of which global company's logo?



Answers on page 46



Small steps to lift your mood

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What truly sets us apart is that around 90% of what we sell is grown right here on site, nurtured in the very Cornish soil we know and love. Our nursery team takes great pride in producing healthy, high-quality plants, creating an inspiring space for gardeners of all levels to explore, plan and bring their outdoor spaces to life.

Alongside our plants, we're also delighted to introduce a brand new farm shop area within our garden centre. Here, you'll find a carefully curated selection of locally sourced produce, including freshly baked bread, a variety of cheeses, locally made drinks, and fresh duck and chicken eggs. This new addition is all about celebrating great local food, and we'll be continuing to expand the range over the coming months — so there's always something new to discover on your next visit.

This season, we're also excited to showcase our latest range of outdoor living, designed to bring both comfort and style to your space. From contemporary lounging sets to timeless dining furniture, our collection offers something to suit every garden.

Whether you're relaxing on a stylish rattan sofa or hosting friends and family around a beautifully crafted dining set, you'll love our furniture, which is built from durable, high-quality materials to look great and last for years to come.



As the warmer months roll in, the Palm Tree Bistro is excited to reopen the Tiki Hut, offering the perfect spot to unwind and enjoy the sunshine in our outdoor seating area.

With everything fresh and vibrant, our spring menu features locally sourced dishes that are bursting with flavour and sure to please every palate. Whether you're in the mood for something fresh and exciting or craving one of your all-time favourites, the expanded menu has something for everyone. So, come join us inside or outside for a relaxed and delicious dining experience, where you can savour the best of what's fresh and local!

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Property | Quick DIY fixes this spring

There's a particular satisfaction that comes from a home that feels quietly organised. Not showroom-perfect, not magazine-ready, just calm, functional and under control.

Often, that feeling doesn't come from big renovations or expensive upgrades, but from a series of small, sensible fixes that remove daily friction. These are the jobs we live with for months, sometimes years, telling ourselves we'll get round to them 'one day', not realising how much low-level irritation they create in the meantime. Hooks are one of the simplest and most transformative changes.

Adding them in hallways, bedrooms or bathrooms instantly reduces clutter. Bags, coats, hats and towels all need homes, and when those homes are obvious and easy to reach, mess stops forming. A local handyman can usually install a set of hooks in minutes, often while tackling other small jobs you've quietly been storing up. Shelves work in much the same way. A single well-placed shelf can clear surfaces, create storage and make a room feel intentional rather than chaotic. Local carpenters and joiners can advise on placement and weight limits, ensuring shelves are secure and suited to the room rather than an afterthought.

Lighting is another overlooked upgrade. Poor lighting makes even tidy rooms feel unfinished



and slightly uncomfortable. Swapping harsh bulbs for warmer ones, adding a lamp to a dark corner or installing simple under-shelf lighting can completely change the mood of a space. It's not about brightness, it's about softness and balance.

Then there are seals, handles and hinges, the unsung heroes of a well-run home. Drafty doors, rattling handles and stiff cupboard hinges subtly irritate us every day, particularly when windows are open more often in warmer months. Fixing them takes little time, costs less than you expect and makes the whole house feel better maintained. And please don't wait until the windy chills of winter arrive before getting the work done!

Replacing worn handles or knobs can also refresh kitchens and bathrooms without the cost of a full refit, and many local hardware shops stock styles that suit older and newer homes alike.

Storage tweaks make a big difference too. Drawer dividers, basket systems and labelled boxes turn chaotic cupboards into usable spaces, and local homeware and DIY shops are often best placed to recommend practical solutions for awkward spaces.

Perhaps the most important aspect of these small fixes is psychological. A home that works well supports calm thinking. When everyday irritations disappear, mental space opens up.

Instead, tackling a few small jobs in May, when energy is higher and daylight lasts longer, sets your home up for summer.

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QUEEN STREET SHUTTERS

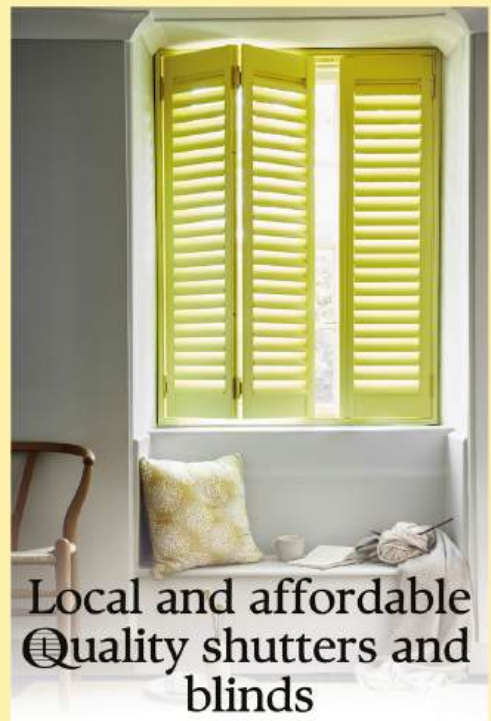


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Coffee Time Puzzles

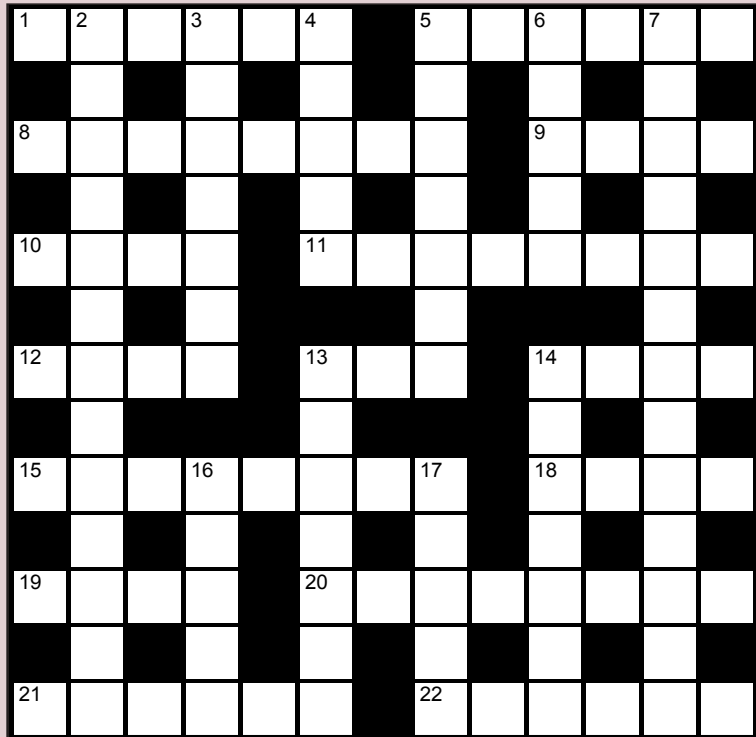
Quick Crossword

Across

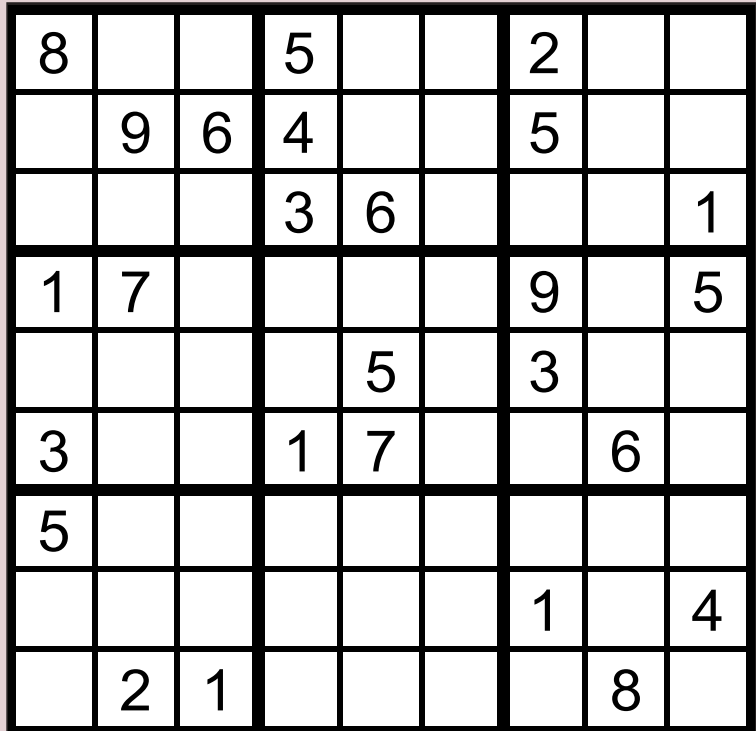
- 1 Rubber (6)
- 5 False (6)
- 8 Burden excessively (8)
- 9 Principal (4)
- 10 Family (4)
- 11 I o W town (8)
- 12 Irritate (4)
- 13 Gone by (3)
- 14 World's longest river (4)
- 15 Skew-whiff (8)
- 18 Lower jaw (4)
- 19 Flightless bird (4)
- 20 Tied up (8)
- 21 Elder (6)
- 22 Something unusual (6)

Down

- 2 Effect a radical change (13)
- 3 Squeeze together (7)
- 4 Spacious (5)
- 5 Experience (7)
- 6 Characteristic rhythm (5)
- 7 Thick (13)
- 13 Account checker (7)
- 14 Atomic (7)
- 16 Literary genre (3-2)
- 17 Discourage (5)



Sudoku



All Answers
on page 46



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Crossword Answers Sudoku Answers

1	E	R	A	S	E	R		5	U	N	6	T	R	7	U	E	
		E		C		O						E			N		
8	O	V	E	R	L	O	A	D			9	M	A	I	N		
		O		U		M		E				P			N		
10	C	L	A	N			11	Y	A	R	M	O	U	T	H		
		U		C							G					E	
12	I	T	C	H			13	A	G	O			14	N	I	L	E
		I						U						U		L	
15	L	O	P	16	S	I	D	E	17			18	C	H	I	N	
		N		C			I	E					L		G		
19	K	I	W	I			20	T	E	T	H	E	R	E	D		
		Z		F			O				E		A		N		
21	S	E	N	I	O	R					22	R	A	R	I	T	Y

8	1	3	5	9	7	2	4	6
2	9	6	4	1	8	5	7	3
7	4	5	3	6	2	8	9	1
1	7	4	6	8	3	9	2	5
6	8	9	2	5	4	3	1	7
3	5	2	1	7	9	4	6	8
5	6	8	9	4	1	7	3	2
9	3	7	8	2	6	1	5	4
4	2	1	7	3	5	6	8	9

Liz's Quizzes, answers

1. Purple; 2. Interface; 3. 1929; 4. Edinburgh; 5. September; 6. The fourth; 7. Bosnia; 8. Basil Brush; 9. Viral; 10. Africa; 11. Three; 12. A hedgehog; 13. 2011; 14. Red; 15. Yellow; 16. Hydrogen and nitrogen; 17. Ryanair; 18. Seville; 19. New Zealand; 20. Nike

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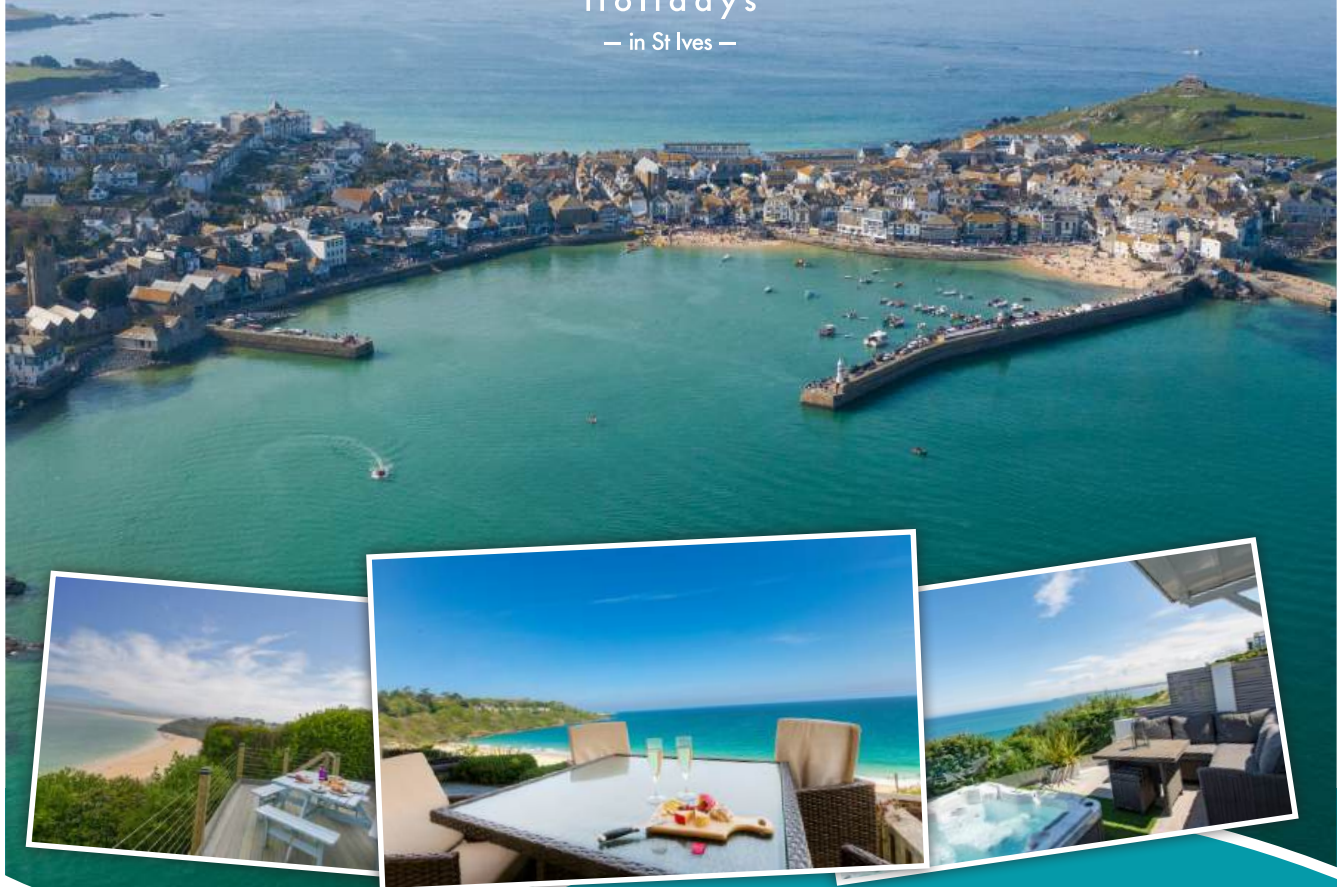
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