

St. Ives Local

FREE

JANUARY / FEBRUARY 2025 | ISSUE 60

2025: Let's get on board!



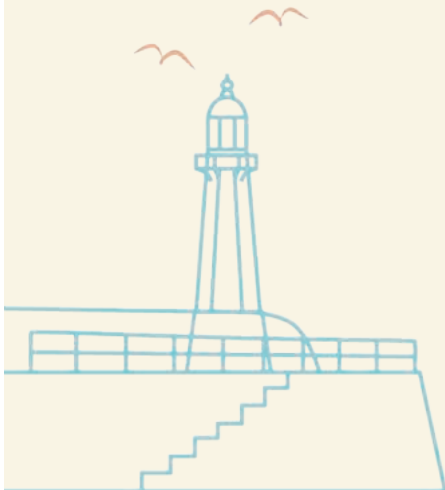
THE ST IVES BAY MAGAZINE



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Welcome...

It's a new year – what will 2025 hold? There are lots of positive signs in this issue, with St Ives BID's Gold Card helping local independent businesses as well as giving residents great deals. And it's time to look forward to Feast Day, when the town comes together to celebrate patron saint, St Eia.

Meanwhile, in Hayle, there are green shoots in the form of a garden plan for the old Hawkins Motors site, and the first anniversary of Sustainable Hayle's allotment project.

Elsewhere in a busy issue, we look back on the history of the September Festival – including an appeal for mementoes from past events – and our advertising manager – and acclaimed singer! – Nicole Tesseyman underlines the importance of shopping locally. If you're interested in advertising in St Ives Local, contact Nicole on 07791 678571 or nicole@stiveslocal.uk

This issue's cover image, entitled Waverider, is by Gwynne Perry, an artist and photographer we've worked with before. Gwynne works from her home studio in Surrey and on location in St Ives



Bay, which she visits regularly. Gwynne also kindly supplied our Welcome photo, showing the moon over the Island at sunrise on a January day.

Don't forget, we deliver thousands of copies of St Ives Local to homes and businesses in the St Ives and Hayle postcode areas – and beyond. Find out more on our website – stiveslocal.uk – follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and Threads, and send us your stories, reports, and listings. And if you visit any of our advertisers, tell them you found them via this magazine.

See you next issue when we'll be looking ahead to Easter and Mother's Day.

Liz and Darren Norbury
Editors

07444 199081 | hello@stiveslocal.uk



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Dates confirmed for St Ives Feast celebrations

St Ives is gearing up for its annual Feast Day, celebrating the town's patron saint, Eia, which will take place this year on Monday, 10th February.

The civic party will leave from the Guildhall between 9.15 and 9.30am, along with musicians and schoolchildren, making their way to St Ia Well, Porthmeor. There the parish priest will bless a silver ball, which is then processed to St Ia Church. At 10.30am the ball is hurled into a gathering of the young people of the parish, who tussle around town to gain possession of it for an hour and a half, before returning it to the mayor, at the Guildhall, at noon. Whoever has the ball then receives a reward.

Other fixtures in the Feast week celebration are two church services, one at St Uny Church, Lelant, on Sunday, 2nd February, and another a week later at St Ia Parish Church, in St Ives. There is also a rugby match scheduled for 7pm on Feast Day, hosted at St Ives RFC, though this has yet to be confirmed.



St Ives mayor Johnnie Wells prepares to hurl the silver ball in 2024

Tennis Club coach gets down to some detective work

Colin Stringer has retired after 24 years as coach of St Ives Tennis Club. His long service was marked with an award at the club's annual dinner at the Harbour Hotel, where he was presented with a cut glass bowl by club secretary Jane Liddicoat.

"St Ives Tennis Club is losing a part of its furniture with the retirement of Colin Stringer as club coach," said chairman Chris Martin. "Most of the current membership won't know St Ives Tennis Club without Colin being the tennis coach here.

"But many also won't know what a great player and attribute Colin has been to the club, sitting on the committee, being a trustee and, to sum it up, being a perfect member for this club. He has always had the club's best interests at heart."

Colin has been awarded life membership of the club he first joined 40 years ago. He said: "I hope to be fit enough to continue playing tennis, but the main plan is to begin work on the sequel to my novel *The SAD Detective*, of which a few copies are still available!"



Colin Stringer receives a cut glass bowl from tennis club secretary Jane Liddicoat

Julie Williams has taken over from Colin as club coach. Details of group courses, sessions, and individual coaching can be found on her website jwtennis.com.



Our community is working hard to provide affordable rental flats at Old Vicarage Flats in Street an Pol

And our new project is acquiring **Bible Christian Chapel** to provide affordable workshop studios in St Peter's Street

For further information, find us at 1a Bedford Road or visit www.stivesclt.org.uk

New Year – but same challenges?



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Award-winning Christmas card celebrates RNLI

A ten-year-old St Ives Junior School pupil has won Carbis Bay Holidays' annual Christmas card design competition.

This year, the holiday letting agency teamed up with the RNLI. In celebration of the organisation's 200th anniversary, the children were encouraged to design a card that not only celebrated Christmas, but also incorporated a safety at sea twist.

Carley Whear won herself art supplies worth £50 and a bundle of Christmas cards in her own design to share with friends and family. St Ives Junior School received £200 to spend on supplies for its art department.

"Well done to all of the children who took part, depicting everything from lifeboats with twinkling Christmas lights, to RNLI volunteers singing carols and, in some cases, soggy Santas stranded at sea and in need of rescue!" said Emily Mercer, marketing manager at Carbis Bay Holidays. "The creativity was impressive."

The competition had a fantastic response, with hundreds of entries from children at schools across the region. Judging the competition was RNLI



Carley Whear with her prize and her winning entry

lifeguard, social media executive, and illustrator Abby Mundell, who said: "I was absolutely blown away by the quality of these entries. The detail, creativity, and composition were astounding."

The Christmas card was printed and sent to Carbis Bay Holidays' property owners and local business contacts, for them to enjoy.

Deals turn to gold for St Ives residents

Local residents have begun taking advantage of the St Ives Gold Card, set up by the town's BID (Business Improvement Project) team. It exists to celebrate and support the local community while boosting business in St Ives all year round.

The card encourages locals to shop, dine, and explore everything St Ives has to offer. More than just a discount or loyalty programme, it's about fostering connections between businesses and the people who live here, driving footfall during quieter months, and promoting year-round spending. Participating businesses offer exclusive deals and offers to Gold Card holders, giving locals a great reason to come into town again and again.

At the time of going to press, retailers offering Gold Card holders deals include: By The Sea, Crafted Coffee, Harbour View House, Hub, Golden Lion, Jus' Desserts, Market Place Tea Rooms, Number 4 Bistro, Razor Clam, Rum and Crab Shack, Scoff Troff Café, Sea of Coffee, Source Kitchen, Cornish Arms, Tides Café, Tregenna Castle, Western Hotel, Animal, Art of Brewing, Atlantic Shore, Blue Bramble Gallery, Bryluen



Botanicals, Colenso, The Corner Shop, Ebikes, Freedom to Explore, Leel, Lilac and Lime, Mans Head, Meor Apparel, Mirror Image, Mountain Warehouse, Porthminster Gallery, Retro St Ives, Roly's Fudge, Sand Sea & Surf, St Ives Techie, St Ives Library, and Wharf Post Office and Toy Shop.

Find out more at stivesbid.co.uk



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Art Club

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St Ives Town Council

Community allotment is latest Sustainable Hayle project

Sustainable Hayle is growing – literally – with the first anniversary of its community allotment, the first of its kind in Cornwall.

The vibrant space, made possible by Hayle Town Council and a dedicated group of volunteers, has transformed a patch of weeds into a thriving growing space in less than 12 months. It's more than just a place to grow food – it's a place to reconnect with nature, nurture your wellbeing, and build lasting friendships.

Whether you're an experienced gardener or new to growing, everyone is welcome to join. Learn the principles of sustainable gardening, discover permaculture practices, and help to create a resilient, mindful community.

The group is also organising a twice-monthly Repair Café, at Hayle Day Care Centre. If you have a bicycle that needs fixing, small electrical items in need of repair, or clothes that could use some love, a friendly team of volunteers is here to help, if they're able. Bring your items and help to keep them out of landfill. Plus, if you're someone who enjoys tinkering and fixing things, you're invited to join the growing team of repairers. The repair services are free, and there are also free refreshments and great company at the sessions, on every other Saturday, from 10.30am to 12.30pm.



This January and February, the group is also offering Home Energy Support at the Repair Café. Community Energy Plus will be on hand to offer expert advice on making your home more energy efficient. Whether you're a homeowner or landlord, they can help you explore retrofit options and ensure your home is running as sustainably as possible.

Sustainable Hayle's other projects include tree planting and beach cleans, all aimed at making Hayle greener, cleaner, and more connected.

Find out more at sustainablehayle.org or email hello@sustainablehayle.org

Walking and cycling initiative progresses

A meeting has been held to discuss short-, mid-, and long-term opportunities that could be included in a St Ives, Carbis Bay, and Hayle Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan.

The group sketched, scribbled, and highlighted desired routes/barriers/improvement opportunities in the area. These can be seen on the Let's Talk Cornwall web page (letstalk.cornwall.gov.uk).

Walking and cycling are two of the most promising activities for addressing the current environmental challenges, promoting healthy

lifestyles, and ensuring a sustainable future for the generations to come. The government's ambition is to make walking and cycling the natural choices, not only for shorter journeys, but also for longer journeys, with the combination of other modes of transportation.

The local group is now working towards a network plan for walking and cycling, which identifies preferred routes and core zones, a prioritised programme of infrastructure improvements for future investment, and a report which sets out the analysis carried out and outlines the identified improvements and network.

Adding colour in the park

A volunteer bulb-planting session has taken place in Ellis Park, Hayle. It was led by Cormac urban ranger, Becky Pack.

This is part of the improvements to Ellis Park that Cornwall Council consulted the community about earlier in 2024.

What's on at the Old Foundry Chapel

We're starting the new year fresh and fabulous!

We can't wait to welcome more visitors to the chapel. Our collective of independent businesses has much to offer for Valentine's Day, whether you are looking for unusual and exquisite artisan gifts, jewellery or art. Or perhaps you're tempted to get ready for spring – why not book in for a beauty treatment, a massage, or a haircut and colour?

There's so much on offer when you come through the door of this lovely building. The chapel is currently undergoing a bit of a transformation, while keeping its unique character. Many of the upstairs rooms are under renovation, so that they



can be used as meeting rooms, offices and community spaces later in the year. Follow @Theoldfoundrychapel on facebook and Instagram for updates.

The Old Foundry Chapel in Foundry Square, Hayle, is home to a wide range of specialist, artisan and vintage shops, offering art and crafts, homeware and fashion, home-cooked savouries and cakes and more.

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Raising voices in song to celebrate Wassail

Volunteers and supporters at St Ives Community Orchard have worked with local singing leader Pip Wright to write a seasonal song in readiness for this winter's Wassail event.

The traditional ceremony celebrates and blesses trees, to awaken them from their winter slumber and encourage them to produce a good harvest for the coming year.

Last year's Wassail marked the 10th anniversary of the creation of the community orchard, which continues to grow and flourish. A new development in in 2024 was the opening of the CORE, an inspirational multi-purpose building, which in recent months has been hosting singing



workshops led by Pip, and where she taught the new Wassail song to friends of the Orchard.

After singing the song at this year's Wassail, people will be encouraged to hang toast soaked in cider on the branches of a tree, before making as much noise as possible and dancing around the orchard.

Wassail is scheduled to take place at St Ives Community Orchard in late January or early February, depending on the weather. For details, visit www.stivesorchard.co.uk

Community Garden Project to get under way

Hayle Town Council has been awarded a grant of £100,000 to bring the much-anticipated community garden project at the former Hawkins Motors site on Hayle Terrace to life.

The project will transform a currently contaminated site into a flourishing green space for residents and visitors to enjoy. With the funding secured, from the government's Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL), the council is now preparing to move forward with the next steps. In the coming weeks, it will be issuing a tender for the remediation of the contaminated land, paving the way for the development of the garden.

Hayle Town Council has also secured conditional planning permission for the replacement of

windows and doors at St Elwyn's Mess. The building is adjacent to the garden site, which means that the whole area will be spruced up and looking tidier. St Elwyn's Mess was devolved to Hayle Town Council from Cornwall Council's ownership at the end of 2023.

"This CIL funding is a fantastic opportunity to make a real difference in our community," said Hayle town clerk, Eleanor Giggall. "The garden will not only improve the environmental health of the area, but also create a beautiful, inclusive space, where people can come together, connect with nature, and enjoy a sense of community. We're excited to begin the work and see this vision come to life."

The remediation and construction phases are expected to commence in spring.



Come in from the cold. cosy up with a bier or two, and enjoy some great food!





Belgian Bar & Bites

A hidden gem awaits... Tucked away in the St Andrews St Hideaway Quarter, escape the hustle and bustle of St Ives and retreat into a Belgian oasis by the Cornish Coast. Belgium is famed for its incomparable brewing traditions, continuous flow of beer and exquisite wholesome cuisine. Here at the family run Bier Huis, our guests can expect to indulge in these authentic dining and drinking rituals, brought to you in splendid surroundings, by a dedicated and passionate team. Check website for winter opening hours. you can choose from the largest Belgian Bier collection in Cornwall, with over 75 bottles and 8 draught varieties. On Sundays, expect live music from local artists, 2-4pm, to accompany your journey of Belgian discovery. Bookings recommended through our website, takeaway Bier available all day.

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St Ives Farmers' Market: A chat with Emma Scott of The Littlest Baker

Have you always enjoyed baking?

I learned about baking from both my grandmas. Here in St Ives, where I grew up, Granny Thomas used to make Congress tarts. She made a slightly overbaked batch once, so we called them "concrete tarts", and that's what my family has called them ever since! Granny Scott taught me to make pasties and saffron cakes. She lived in Porthleven and used to enter the village shows, and I enjoyed helping her. I started entering shows when I was five, and I carried on throughout my years at school. I took first prize out of 18 entries for my Victoria sponge at Stithians Show one year! I went to Camborne Tech to do catering, and then I did an advanced level in confectionery and patisserie. Everyone likes sweet things, and I love making everything look pretty.

What was the next stage in your baking career?

I ran the café at St Ives Leisure Centre, and then I worked at St Ives Bakery as the confectioner for eight years – I thoroughly enjoyed working there, but I wanted to specialise in celebration cakes.



I've been making cakes as a sideline for 12 years, including large birthday cakes for our family, because with smaller cakes, we only got one or two slices once they were shared out among all the cousins! I started making birthday and wedding cakes to order in 2021 – all made from scratch in my tiny kitchen in Carbis Bay, hence the name The Littlest Baker! I don't use artificial flavouring – it's all natural and good – and I use local dairies like Trink, Rodda's and Trewithen.

Where can people buy your cakes?

I'm at St Ives Farmers' Market every Monday. I'm fairly new there, and I'm thoroughly enjoying it. I do the craft market in St Ives on Wednesdays as well, and I'm hoping to be at Carbis Bay Memorial Hall once a month this year. At the markets, I have a



variety of cakes: cherry and almond; coffee and walnut; blueberry and lemon drizzle; and classic Victoria sponge with strawberry and vanilla and a jammy centre, not just buttercream. I also make Viennese biscuits, cookies, and shortbread stacks. For Christmas, I made chocolate rolls and lots of mince pies: I made the mincemeat and the Viennese topping. I take orders for birthday cakes and wedding cakes at the markets, and I supply flapjacks and cakes to the kiosk at St Ives Station in the summer.

What are your plans for 2025?

My project this year is chocolate, tempered and moulded into shapes. For Valentine's Day, I'm working on filled chocolates, and maybe chocolate rose cupcakes. And I would like to be known for celebration cakes: I love finding out the flavours people like, and making a cake for their special occasion. Maybe I'll have a shop in the future, but for the moment I'm enjoying going to different markets. It's nice being out of the kitchen – although I love it – and talking to people about what I make. I can talk about cake until the cows come home!

To order a celebration cake from Emma Scott, email thelittlestbaker@outlookcom or contact her via [@emslittlestbaker](#) on Facebook or Instagram.

Penzance Mild, always a favourite, now a national champion

Mild, a 3.6% ABV beer from Crowlas-based Penzance Brewing Co, has triumphed in the mild category of CAMRA's Champion Beer of Britain competition.

It beat Brains' Dark and McGregor's Mild, from Five Kingdoms Brewery, which picked up silver and bronze respectively. With no Great British Beer Festival this year, the results were announced at Kelham Hall, Nottinghamshire, during the venue's Beer and Cider Festival.

There is a consistently strong fan base for Penzance Mild, a 3.6% ABV easy-drinker, packed with malt and fruit flavours. Prior to the temporary closure of The Star – Penzance Brewing Co's brewpub – last year, it was a consistent favourite, especially with Midlanders on holiday. "That's proper mild, that is," they'd exclaim with glee.

I recall Pete Elvin, the original brewer, who passed away in 2023, telling me that the recipe was based

on Banks's famous mild, which would explain why those visitors loved it so much. And the Penzance version will live on while the Banks's comes to an end under Carlsberg's stewardship. You can find out more about this and other stories on my website, beertoday.co.uk. Elsewhere in the Champion Beer of Britain results, there was silver for Sharp's Sea Fury in the premium bitter class, and for St Austell Proper Job in the category for premium pale, blond, and golden ales.

Darren Norbury



St Ives

Farmers' Market



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Recipe: Wild mushroom and tarragon fettuccine

Resident St Ives Local chef Daniel Rouncefield has something easy and healthy to kick off the new year. "A lovely vegetarian dish that certainly doesn't lack in flavour!" says the head chef at The Inn for All Seasons, Treleigh. "You can make it vegan using dairy alternatives." This recipe serves two.

INGREDIENTS

250g dried fettuccini pasta
1 small punnet of button mushrooms
50g butter
1 white onion
50g tarragon
1 garlic clove
40g dried wild mushrooms
125ml white wine
125ml double cream
Salt and pepper

METHOD

Firstly, get all your prep done and ready, as once started it is a quick dish to complete. Finely slice the white onion, quarter the button mushrooms, chop the garlic and tarragon, and have it all on a chopping board ready to go.

Put the dried mushrooms into a jug and pour boiling water over them just enough to cover them. Leave them soak, making the most delicious stock – don't waste this! You want a pan of boiling salted water on the stove, ready for your pasta, and a frying pan, or even a wok, for frying.

On a high heat, get some oil hot in your frying pan or wok. Once the oil starts to shimmer, add the butter and chopped ingredients and start to fry them off. A little colour will bring out the flavour



better. At this point, add the white wine and deglaze the pan, allowing the wine to cook down. Now, add the wild mushrooms with that mushroom stock and cook down again.

Once slightly thickened, add the cream and allow to reduce down again. Cooking the liquid down each time allows flavour to be added without the sauce becoming too thin.

Now, cook your pasta. Follow the guidelines of the packet, depending on the pasta you have brought. Turn the heat down on the sauce, allowing it to slowly bubble away while the pasta is cooking.

Once the pasta is cooked, using tongs, put it straight into the sauce. Don't hold it up to drain as you want some of the pasta water, now with all that starch, in your sauce. This will help to thicken further and coat all the pasta in that beautiful sauce. Give one final toss, and season to your liking. I feel this dish can handle a good quantity of pepper.

Serve it with some fresh tarragon across the top.

Liz's Quizzes

Liz Noall is back to tease you with her quiz! As well as trying these questions, you can catch Liz live every week. On Mondays, she's at the Castle Inn, St Ives, at 8pm; on Wednesdays, she's testing the teams at the Bird in Hand, Hayle, at 7.30pm; on Thursdays, it's the Lifeboat Inn, St Ives; from 8.30pm; and she's at the Royal Standard, Hayle, on Sunday evenings.



1. Which famous writer wrote the Mallory Towers series of books?
2. Which of the planets in our solar system would, technically, float in water?
3. In an alphabetical list of counties of England, what comes after Berkshire and before Cambridgeshire?
4. In which Beatles song does the character Father MacKenzie appear?
5. 350 Fifth Avenue, New York City, is the address of which world famous building?
6. Kevin, Joe, and Nick are the Christian names of which American singing brothers?
7. Brought to Italy by Marco Polo, which Asian country is credited with creating ice cream?
8. How many inches are there in one foot?
9. With a year either way, what year was the Chernobyl nuclear disaster?
10. What is the three-letter name for the offspring of a goat?
11. Which sport is played on a surface measuring nine feet by five feet?
12. Who was the famous mother of Liza Minelli?
13. Sadly dying in January of last year, who held the Guinness world record for the longest career as a female radio presenter?
14. In the book Treasure Island, what sort of creature was Captain Flint?
15. According to the proverb, what should you make while the sun shines?
16. In the USA, how many nickels are in a dollar?
17. How many years are celebrated with a golden wedding anniversary?
18. Who played Harry in the now iconic film When Harry Met Sally?
19. What common type of dwelling takes its name in English from a type of cottage built for European settlers in Bengal?
20. What is the name of the vacuum cleaner on The Teletubbies?



Answers on page 46

A New Year's Resolution: Let's support our local businesses

by Nicole Tesseyman, St Ives Local advertising manager

Over the last 18 months, I've really enjoyed being part of the St Ives Local magazine team, walking around St Ives and Hayle and talking to local business owners. I've discovered that people who run businesses have dedication and drive.

They are innovative and hard-working, with passion, grit, and dreams which they strive to turn into reality. But I've also discovered that they need our support. This time last year, I wrote an article in St Ives Local urging our community here in St Ives Bay to shop local where possible, rather than shopping online. As I said then, if every person in a town or village bought a coffee once a week from their local café, or purchased a present from a local gift shop, it would help to keep these businesses running.

I love to go to Cafe Art for a toasted sandwich and a hot chocolate – but it's not just the food and drink I go there for, but the warm welcome and sense of community. It's the same at Sky's Diner in St Ives and Duckies in Hayle, where they make an effort to know your name and remember how you like your tea.

When you live in a small town or village, it's the personal touch that you appreciate, whether it's from a waitress who gives you a genuine smile, or a taxi driver who helps you with your bags. People move away from cities in search of the slower pace of life in this part of the world, where we still shout across the road: "Alright, are ee?" and get the reply "Yeah – you?" Let's keep that spirit alive.

As we all know, living in a desirable area does have its challenges, such as the ebb and flow of trade – which, ironically, mirrors the movement of the tides which we are lucky enough to witness every day in our picture-perfect bay. Every picture tells a story – and our story, in the towns and villages in Cornwall, can be lack of access to shops where we can buy necessities at a reasonable price, and this can push us into shopping online.

But we have wonderful businesses right here, ranging from essential town shops such as Colenso's to cosy village pubs like the Halsetown Inn. We can buy gifts for our friends and family in The Corner Shop –



owner Sarah Hocking is always friendly, and her shop is like a very stylish Aladdin's Cave, with something for everyone. Why not buy a hand-made pair of earrings for Mother's Day at Makers' Boutique Studio, one of a collection of charming artisan shops at the Old Foundry Chapel in Hayle? As for gifts for men ... well, let's be honest, it's always harder to find something for them. But never fear, Man's Head is here, full of treasures which they'll love!

We can go for breakfast at cafes like Chapels or Beagles, which make a point of catering for local people, and Morva Koffi, tucked away behind the Tate in Barnoon car park, which offers hearty Cornish delights to warm your cockles after a stroll across Porthmeor beach with your dog.

It would be a shame if this magical part of the world became full of boarded-up buildings and chain stores, instead of beautiful and unique shops. So let's all make it one of our New Year's resolutions to shop local, and help keep our fantastic businesses going.

Remember, it's not the amount you spend, but the consistency of making small, regular purchases which makes a difference – and that's something we can all do.

To advertise in St Ives Local, contact Nicole on 07791 678571 or nicole@stiveslocal.uk



EXPLORE YOUR *Creativity* at Crafty Corner Tuesdays 2 - 4pm



Ever fancied having a go at art, but not had the confidence? Or maybe you're an established artist who wants a fun social group to join where you can share your skills and learn new techniques.

Crafty Corner is a new weekly group starting on Tuesday 7th January which is open to both members and non members over the age of 18 who would like to get creative and express themselves.

£3 members

£4 non members
(includes tea/coffee
& snack)

Spaces limited

If you're interested in being part of this weekly group, please email jo_grant37@hotmail.com

St Ives Arts Club, Wescott's Quay



Out on the Towans

Munching, browsing, trampling and dunging!



Friends of the Towans can look back with satisfaction on a busy year of practical conservation sessions in the dunes of St Ives Bay, and we're now planning a packed programme for 2025.

In recent months we've been working at Gwithian Green, where we cut back willow to open up the wet grassland area; cut gorse from a large scrubby area at St Gothian Sands; and made a start on clearing invasive buddleia from Upton Towans and cotoneaster from Mexico Towans – all to give the dune grassland plants a chance to regenerate.

Our sessions run on Tuesdays from 10am to 2pm at various sites across the Towans, starting on 7th January. Sessions are open to all – we're a friendly group, and you don't need any previous practical experience to join us. We supply tools, training, and the all-important biscuits! Everyone takes part at a pace that suits them – stopping to admire the views across the bay, chatting, and watching the wildlife, as and when we feel like it.

In the last year, we've enjoyed hosting increasing numbers of students from local schools – they're the conservation volunteers of the future – and we're always delighted to welcome the grazing ponies who help us in our work. They returned to Mexico Towans in October, and they'll also be at Gwithian Green, and Gwithian and Upton Towans over the coming months. As we mentioned in the last issue of St Ives Local, the ponies make a unique contribution to the management and conservation of the special habitats of the Towans, so here's a bit more information about how they do it:

Munching: Keeps a variety of plants and shrubs in check, and reduces the nutrients in the soil, encouraging a greater diversity of species;



Browsing: Stops woody plants from taking over the dune grassland by stripping bark and nibbling shoots on trees;

Trampling: Opens up different areas and creates bare ground, which gives seeds and pioneer plants a chance to establish, and provides areas for insects to burrow and animals to dust bath and bask;

Dunging: Provides food for insects and birds.

Grazier Gerald Babcock uses hardy pony breeds that are well suited to this type of grazing and living outdoors whatever the weather. If you see the ponies whilst you're out on the Towans, please give them plenty of space – and especially, do not feed them, as this can make them ill. Eating sugary or rich food like carrots, apples and grass cuttings can cause them to develop laminitis, an extremely painful condition that affects their feet and can lead to them being unable to walk or stand, and may result in them having to be put down.

The ponies are regularly checked by the grazier and volunteer pony checkers. If you would like to join our team of checkers, get in touch to find out more. Email friendsofthetowans@gmail.com or phone 07393 522875.

We'd like to say a big thank you to the ponies – and to everyone who has contributed their time and energy to support the wonderful wildlife of the Towans over the last year.

Find out more about Friends of the Towans activities at www.friendsofthetowans.org.uk, on Facebook, and by email: Practical conservation/pony checking/Recording Group: friendsofthetowans@gmail.com Art Club: friendsofthetowansartclub@gmail.com Beach cleans: saveoursand@btinternet.com



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St Ives Theatre: Exciting times ahead – and you can play your part!

by Trustee Danny Strickland

As we begin another year, we can safely say that 2025 is going to be one of the most exciting periods in recent memory for Kidz R Us. This is the year when our beloved theatre will be handed back to us after nearly a year of being dismantled and rebuilt.

While 2024 represented the beginning of the project to save the building, 2025 represents the start of a flourishing future for the charity. Our long-term strategic plan is to safeguard our future by using our refurbished theatre to create a year-round programme of shows.

St Ives Theatre will always be “The Home of Kidz R Us”, but we will widen our offering and look to attract visiting production companies. Work will start on this in 2025, and take a couple of years to build up, but we aim to offer St Ives a diverse range of shows. This will help us appeal to new audiences, as well as increase ticket sales, and so enable us to employ staff to oversee the day-to-day management and operation of the theatre, allowing our artistic team to focus on productions and workshops.

All being well, the theatre will be returned to us in March 2025, giving us about five weeks to get the building ready before our opening show, The Wizard of Oz, at Easter! Stage lighting needs to go up, sound equipment installed, stage scenery built, office space returned, and health and safety protocols implemented. In addition, our young members – who have already started rehearsing – have just a short time to rehearse on stage. No mean feat! While this period will be a huge challenge, the board and their fantastic team of volunteers are up to the challenge!

However, we need to manage community expectations. The return of our theatre will represent just the first stage in a long process to revitalise the auditorium. The refurbishment has saved the superstructure of the building, but the internal modernisation will continue for several years. Please join us on this journey! This is an exciting and transformational time for us, as we move from being an awesome small charity to



Representatives of Cornwall Council and the St Ives Town Deal Board are shown work in progress at the theatre by architect Clare Mackness.

an equally awesome larger charity, implementing strategic plans to do more, offer more, and secure our future as Cornwall’s second largest theatre venue. The future is rosy – but we need additional help.

We are seeking experienced professional people to join our Trustee Board. You must have the time to commit to a trusteeship, and be willing to assist us as we develop and professionalise our organisation. Do you have a skillset in HR, communications, child safeguarding, finance or building management? If so, we’d love to hear from you.

We’re also looking to recruit community volunteers who would like to join our Front of House team. Watch future shows, become part of the theatre crew, understand what goes on behind the scenes, learn all things stagecraft and get to know the cast!

Front of House staff are a vital component of a thriving theatre. They welcome the audience into the building, and ensure that they enjoy accessible, hospitable and entertaining shows. New recruits will be trained in a variety of roles, including important health and safety protocols, to become professional and competent members of our crew.

If you’re interested in joining us, email info@kidz.net and we’ll get back to you – though please bear with us for a response, as these next few months are very busy for our team!

St Ives Theatre

PRESENTS THE YOUTH EDITION OF

THE WIZARD of OZ

By **L. Frank Baum**

With Music and Lyrics by
Harold Arlen and E. Y. Harburg

Background Music by
Herbert Stothart

Dance and Vocal Arrangements
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Orchestration by **Larry Wilcox**

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JULY 28, 29 @ 7:30pm

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SEPTEMBER 3, 4 @ 7:30pm

For tickets and info visit us at **www.kidzrus.net**
or email **info@kidzrus.net**



Can you help to fill in some September Festival history?

The St Ives September Festival is inviting followers of the town's annual 15 days of music and arts to join in a trip down Memory Lane as part of its latest website project.

Festival organisers are seeking help as they try to add to the Festival History page on their website (stivesseptemberfestival.co.uk). The current committee have plenty of items since the Festival returned in 2021, after missing 2020 due to the Covid lockdown, but they would like to access items from earlier years.

If anyone has posters and photographs – especially from the early days – that they can scan or photograph and email to info@stivesseptemberfestival.co.uk the festival team would love to include them.

The September Festival was the brainchild of a group of artists and musicians who met in the back kitchen of a cottage in Teetotal Street in 1977. The first festival took place a year later and included folk music, dance, fine arts, chamber music, animated film, poetry, arts and crafts, theatre, and the first Open Studios programme, which has continued to the present day and which will run again this year.

The festival, which has had its ups and downs, continued until 1986 when it first became a victim of money troubles. Re-starting in 1994, it lasted



Show of Hands

until 2001 before hitting financial problems once again. A lower key 'fringe' version ran until 2004, before once again becoming a high-profile annual event.

Like all other festivals nationwide, it fell victim to Covid in 2020 before the new-look committee bit the bullet 12 months later and decided to go ahead at a time when many other festivals around the country were cancelling for a second successive year.

The passing of Queen Elizabeth 48 hours before the opening day of 2023 festival saw the organisers going to bed not knowing if they would be able



Sandcastle competition



Martin Carthy

to go ahead – but the following morning, with confirmation that their contract for The Guildhall would be honoured, the show went on, to the acclaim of local people and visitors grateful for something to lift the gloom of the preceding days, and those post-Covid years.

Twelve months later, the closure of The Guildhall, for its renovation project, left the festival without its biggest venue, but, with other venues stepping up and more of a community feel, the ‘different’ 2024 festival was, on feedback received, judged to be another success.

This year, with The Guildhall still closed, St Ives Theatre, whose own major renovation is almost complete, will host the headline events.



Geno Washington



Ray Lewis



Peggy Seager



What's On January and February

MONDAYS

Little Ones at the Bridge

Toddler Café and Bump to One at The Bridge, Penpol Terrace, Hayle. Toddler Café runs from 9.30am-10.30am in term time. Bump to One runs from 10.45am-11.45am and is also free. haylelightandlife.co.uk/little-ones

Beachfit

Outdoor fitness sessions on the beach, Hayle, 9.30am. beachfitcornwall.com

Pilates

Carbis Bay, 9.30am, £7. Suitable for beginners and those struggling with pain or long-term conditions, such as arthritis, but want to exercise in a safe environment with a physiotherapist. Email sheryl@beachsidephysiotherapy.co.uk or phone 07376 601061.

Iyengar Yoga

In the Greta Williams Room, St Ives Library, 9.30am-11am, with Ann Nicol. Drop-in session, all levels welcome. £10.

St Ives Farmers' Market

At the Island Centre, 9.30am-2pm. See feature elsewhere in the magazine.

Barnoon Arts

Open drawing class in St Ives Arts Club, 10am-noon. barnoonarts.uk

St Ives Arts Club

Monday Art Group, 1pm-4pm. Check with the club for spaces as it gets very busy.

Hayle Memory Café

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

Carbis Bay Contract Bridge Club

Carbis Bay Memorial Hall, Trencom Lane, 2pm-5pm. A friendly local group — beginners welcome. £3 per session (includes tea and biscuits). For more information, call Graham on 01736 762512 or visit carbisbaybridge.co.uk

St Ives Community Foodshare

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

St Ives Camera Club

St Anta Church Hall, Carbis Bay, 7.30pm. From September to April. For a programme of events, visit stivescameraclub.co.uk

Needles and Pins

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

Touch Rugby

At Hayle Rugby Club, 7pm. All welcome.

Liz's Quizzes

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

Christian Meditation

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

Local Vocalz

At Hayle Methodist Church, 7.30pm. A friendly, 45-strong mixed four-part choir singing popular songs, from classics to pop. No audition necessary. First month free. Email pluing@tiscali.co.uk or call 01736 754225.

Towednack Church

Bellringing practice, 7.30pm-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

Bay Fitness and Yoga

Early morning outdoor fitness and yoga, overlooking Porthmeor Beach, 8.30am. @bayfitnessyoga on Instagram.

St John's in-the-Fields

Morning prayer, 9am. stiveschurch.org.uk

DDMix

At Carbis Bay Memorial Hall. 9.45am: Yogascope — yoga moves to music. 10.30am: Move It or Lose It (for the over-60s). 11.30am: Diverse Dance Mix – aerobics. An aerobic workout using dance styles from around the world. To book, phone 07719 700993 or email diversedancemix.martha@gmail.com

Wild Tiddlers

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

St Ives Community Orchard

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

Friends of the Towans

A friendly group of volunteers carrying out practical conservation tasks, 10am-2pm. **07393 522875**. [Facebook.com/friendsofthetowans](https://www.facebook.com/friendsofthetowans)

Barnoon Arts

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

Knit and Natter

Every Tuesday at the Edward Hain Centre, St Ives, 11am-12.30pm. All welcome — just show up.

St Ives History Walk

A two-hour walk around exploring many facets of local history. Meet by the Barbara Hepworth sculpture at the Malakoff, 11am. £5 (children free), cash only. No need to book.

St Ives Community Foodshare

Pick up surplus food at the Palemon Best car park, St Ives, 12.30pm. kevrannastives.co.uk/foodshare/

St Ives Knitting Group

Café Art, Royal Square, St Ives, 3pm-4.30pm. Come along for knit and a natter — all welcome. Refreshments available.

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



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www.endrianyoga.com

Tuesday) at West Cornwall Golf Club. For details, phone Birte Hosken on **01736 798408** or email birtehosken@yahoo.co.uk

St Ives St John Ambulance

Meets upstairs in the Island Centre, Island Road, 6pm-8pm in term time, for five- to 18-year-olds. sja.org.uk

1st St Ives Cubs

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

St Ives Community Choir

Rehearsals from 6.30pm to 8.30pm at Carbis Bay Memorial Hall. New members are always welcome. No auditions required, just enjoy singing. For more information, phone Lynda on 01736 796832 / 07871 805526, email sichoir@btinternet.com or visit stivescommunitychoir.org.uk

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 of the month. Big Kettle Jazz (line music) every other Tuesday. [facebook.com/StivesJazzClub](https://www.facebook.com/StivesJazzClub)

WEDNESDAYS

Little Ones on the Beach

9.30am-10.30am in term time. Fresh air and a chance to play in the dunes while making new friends. At Ferry Beach, North Quay, Hayle. haylelightandlife.co.uk/little-ones

St.Ives Local

Beachfit

Outdoor fitness session on the beach in Hayle, 9.30am. beachfitcornwall.com

Pilates

Carbis Bay, 9.30am, £7. Suitable for beginners and those struggling with pain or long-term conditions, such as arthritis, but want to exercise in a safe environment with a physiotherapist. Email sheryl@beachsidephysiotherapy.co.uk or phone 07376 601061.

Steeple Woodland Nature Reserve

Work party: all welcome to take part in light exercise with like-minded people. Meet by the wooden gate on Steeple Lane at 9.30am. Tools and gloves provided. Wear clothing suitable for the weather 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 St Ives, 10.30am–12.30pm. barnoonarts.uk

St Ives Community Foodshare Kevranna Social Club

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. Refreshments provided. kevrannastives.co.uk/foodshare/

Rhyme Time

At St Ives Library, 10.45am. Thirty minutes of music, singing, and stories for pre-school children.

St John's in-the-Fields

Welcome Wednesdays, 2pm–4pm. A warm, safe space to come to.

Ukulele Club

At St Ives Arts Club, 2pm–4pm. Email Steve at swmlither@btinternet.com if you're interested in learning the ukulele.

Brownies

At 5pm, St Ives Salvation Army, Wharf Road. Information on 01736 797746.

1st St Ives Beavers

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

Iyengar Yoga

In Room 10 at the Edward Hain Centre, 6.30pm–8pm. £10. For all levels of experience – drop in.

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, 8.30pm–11pm. All welcome to an evening of jams and performances celebrating global music.

THURSDAYS

Bay Fitness and Yoga

Early morning outdoor fitness and yoga, overlooking Porthmeor Beach, 8.30am. [@bayfitnessyoga](https://www.instagram.com/bayfitnessyoga) on Instagram.

Iyengar Yoga

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

Pilates

Carbis Bay, 9.30am, £7. Suitable for beginners and those struggling with pain or long-term conditions, such as arthritis, but want to exercise in a safe environment with a physiotherapist. Email sheryl@beachsidephysiotherapy.co.uk or phone 07376 601061.

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

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

St Ives Memory Café

At Carbis Bay Memorial Hall, 2pm–4pm, on the first and third Thursdays of each month. Music, entertainment, arts and crafts, quizzes, social interaction. 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. kevranastives.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

St Ives Male Voice Praise Choir

The choir meets at Hellesveor Chapel, 7.30pm. They would welcome men interested in singing Christian music. Practice usually lasts just over an hour.

Café Frug

At St Ives Arts Club. A variety of performers and formats, compered by Bob Devereux, on the first Thursday of the month. 7.30pm (doors open 7.15pm). £4 (£2 members) on the door.

Alternative Folk Thursdays

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

FRIDAYS

Beachfit

Outdoor fitness sessions on the beach in Hayle, 9.30am. beachfitcornwall.com

Toddlers Group

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

Pilates

Carbis Bay, 9.30am, £7. Suitable for beginners and those struggling with pain or long-term conditions, such as arthritis, but want to exercise in a safe environment with a physiotherapist. Email sheryl@beachsidephysiotherapy.co.uk or phone **07376 601061**.

Penderleath Community Woodland

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



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Hayle Farmers' and Craft Market

At Phillack Church Hall, 10am-1pm. Phone **01736 755005** or email gilliandawkins1@gmail.com or jackie@renfree.com

Welfare Benefits Advice

Free advice on the first Friday of every month, 10.30am-1.30pm, at the Edward Hain Centre. To book an appointment email centremanager@edwardhaincentre.org.uk or drop into the centre.

Coffee morning

At St Ives Arts Club theatre, 11am-12.30pm. 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 chat.

Friday Arts Club

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

Trencrom Ladies' Club

At Lelant Village Hall on the second Friday of each month, 2pm-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. kevranastives.co.uk/foodshare/

St Ives Girls' Skate Night

5.30pm-7.30pm at the Palemon Best Recreation Area, second Friday of the month. All wheels, levels, and ages welcome. **Facebook/Instagram: @girlsskatestives**

St.Ives Local

St Ives St John Ambulance

At the Island Centre, Island Road, for adults aged 18 upwards, 7pm–9pm. sja.org.uk

Youth Club

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

Songwriters' open mic Fridays

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

SATURDAYS

Bay Fitness and Yoga

Early morning outdoor yoga and fitness, overlooking Porthmeor Beach, 8.30am. [@bayfitnessyoga](https://www.instagram.com/bayfitnessyoga) on Instagram.

FOSIL (Friends of St Ives Library)

Super Saturdays on the first Saturday of every month in St Ives Library, 10am–noon. Different theme every month. All welcome. Drinks and cakes provided.

Barnoon Arts

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

Hayle Repair Café

Free repairs of bicycles, small electrical items, and clothing. Free hot drinks, biscuits, and cake will be available. 10.30am–12.30pm at Hayle Day Care Centre.

Bellringing

In the tower (ground floor) 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 ten to 80-plus (children must bring a parent/guardian). Information on **01736 793201**.

St Ives Tennis Club

Coaching from 10am to 5pm with seven courses or sessions for juniors and adults of all standards, aged from two upwards, with club coach Julie Williams. Book online at jwtennis.com. New members welcome. clubspark.lta.org.uk/StIvesTennisClub

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.

Hellesveor Methodist Chapel

Service 10.45am. At the junction of the B3311 and the B3306 (TR26 2HW). Free parking. Disabled access. A warm welcome to all.

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.

Fore Street Methodist Church

Morning service, 10.30am. All welcome. William Thomas **01736 799762**.

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/

OTHER EVENTS

St Ives Old Cornwall Society

Meetings are held in Carbis Bay Memorial Hall, at 7pm.

6th January

Members evening. Belinda Ratnayake will be showing her locally-made vase, which is inscribed with St Ives nicknames. She will then explain how and why the nicknames, once so popular, were given.

3rd February

Merv and Hilary Davey, “Harry and Carrie”, entertaining with Clay Country Dances and Traditions.

St Ives U3A

7th January

Talk by Debbie Harris on the charity Abroad Uganda.

4th February

Talk by Holly McGoary on Cornwall Hospice. Meetings are at Carbis Bay Memorial Hall, 2pm. u3astives.co.uk

Leach Pottery announces new trustees

Six new appointments have been made to The Leach Pottery Trust, including one of the organisation’s former apprentices. The trustees will support the strategic development of the Leach Pottery and its staff during a time of major change. The site will be transformed over the next two years.

The trust was originally looking to appoint three new trustees, but was overwhelmed by the quality of applications and has appointed five new members to the board, plus an observer. “Our new board members offer a diverse and amazing set of skills and knowledge that will support us through our next few years as the pottery undergoes unprecedented change to safeguard it for future generations,” said Leach Pottery director Libby Buckley.

“It’s particularly encouraging to be able to appoint a former Leach Pottery apprentice. Since leaving us in 2022, Callum Trudgeon

has gone on to set up his own pottery in New Zealand. Increasing training opportunities and apprenticeships like Callum’s is central to the ongoing transformation project.”



Potter Callum Trudgeon

The other new trustees are: Laura Goodband, a creative director and visual arts curator; Simon Harrison, a fundraiser and campaigner; Matthew Whittell, recently retired from a career in finance; Nik Ramsey-Trease, a former director of strategy and transformation for a multi-national IT company; and Tamzyn Smith, a former chief executive of Cornwall Museums Partnership. The trustees were ratified at a meeting of the Bernard Leach Trust and will now serve for three years, apart from Callum, who will be an observer member for 12 months.

KIRSTY BRIDGEWATER

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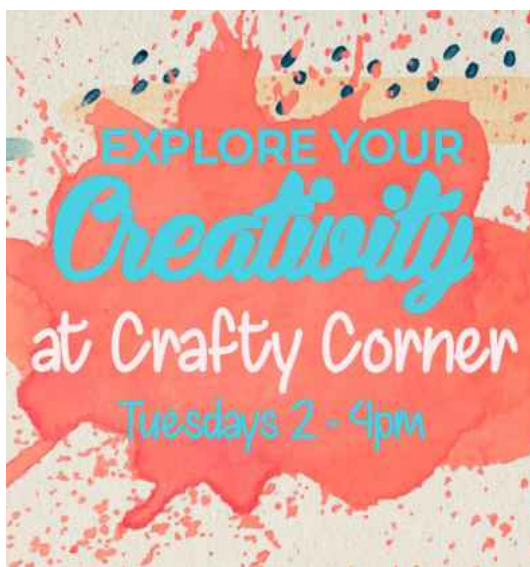


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Get started on your art journey

St Ives Arts Club will be playing host to a new weekly group from Tuesday, 7th January, aiming to give locals the confidence to get started in art.

Crafty Corner is open to both members and non-members of the Arts Club over the age of 18, who would like to get creative and express themselves. It aims to be a fun group where participants can share skills and improve techniques. It will cost £3 for members and £4 for non-members, with tea/coffee and a snack included. Spaces are limited, so if you're interested in coming along, email jo_grant37@hotmail.com.



Dates for throwing courses

The Leach Pottery is taking bookings for three-day throwing courses, being held between April and August this year. The courses are open to student potters, keen amateurs, improvers, and complete beginners. They consolidate essential techniques and explore new

approaches and are taught in small group of four students.

If you would like to talk through the course content and your skill level ahead of booking a place, you can email ellen.love@leachpottery.com to arrange a time to chat.

Art & Exhibitions

LEACH POTTERY

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leachpottery.com

PENWITH GALLERY

31st January-3rd March

Debbie Prosser and Delpha Hudson: Telling Tales Members' Exhibition

Associate Members' Exhibition

Back Road East, St Ives TR26 1NW

penwithgallery.com

PORTHMINSTER GALLERY

1st-30th March

Exhibition of Barbara Hepworth original prints and

Bryan Pearce prints and original paintings.

22 Fore Street, St Ives TR26 1HE

porthminstergallery.co.uk

ST IVES SCHOOL OF PAINTING

17th January-19th October

Porthmeor Programme Online

A ten-month intensive course with one-to-one tutorials and small-group creative sessions.

20th-22nd January

Iona Saunders: Banish Fear of Failure

26th January

Sunday Kids' Arts Club and Porthmeor Arts

Collective: Expressive Textiles

27th-30th January

Emily Roberts: The Realistic Portrait

1st and 2nd February

Roger Towndrow: Not So Still Life

3rd-5th February

Kate Southworth: Harnessing Chance in Painting

A radical surrealist with a Cornish connection

One of the most radical artists of her generation, Ithell Colquhoun was an important figure in British Surrealism during the 1930s and 1940s. An innovative writer and practising occultist, Colquhoun charted her own course, investigating surrealist methods of unconscious picture-making and fearlessly delving into the realms of myth and magic. Now, an exhibition of her work, *Between Worlds*, is coming to Tate St Ives from 1st February.

Colquhoun explored the possibilities of a divine feminine power as a path to personal fulfilment and societal transformation. Her understanding of the world as a connected spiritual cosmos brought her to Cornwall, where she deepened her creative explorations, inspired by the region's ancient landscape, Celtic traditions, and sacred sites.

This landmark exhibition of more than 200 artworks and archival material traces Colquhoun's evolution, from her early student work and engagement



with the surrealist movement, to her fascination with the intertwining realms of art, sexual identity, ecology, and occultism. It culminates in a room dedicated to Colquhoun's interpretation of the Tarot deck – her most accomplished fusion of her artistic and magical practice.

The exhibition will debut at Tate St Ives from February to May, journeying to Tate Britain from June to October 2025.

7th-9th February

Hilary Jean Gibson: Beginners Watercolour

10th-12th February

Alice Mumford: Inside Outside (still life)

14th-16th February

Liz Luckwell: Abstract Colour in St Ives

17th February

Steven Buckler: Everyone Can Draw

17th-19th February

John Dyer: Painting St Ives, Your Narrative

18th February

Steve Buckler: Discover Mixed Media

19th February

Steve Buckler: Oil Painting Essentials

20th February

Kitty Hillier: Mindful Ways to Paint

(kids' workshop)

21st-23rd February

Adrian Holmes: Japanese Woodblock Printing

23rd February

Sunday Kids' Arts Club and Porthmeor Arts

Collective: Photographs the Barbara Hepworth

Sculpture Garden

24th-26th February

Gary Long: Contemporary Figure Painting

28th February-2nd March

Ilker Cinerel: Discover Painting

Back Road West, St Ives TR26 1NG

schoolofpainting.co.uk

TATE ST IVES

1st February-5th May

Ithell Colquhoun: *Between Worlds*

Porthmeor Beach, St Ives TR26 1TG

tate.org.uk

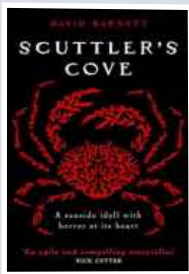
Book Review

by Alice Harandon, manager of St Ives Bookseller

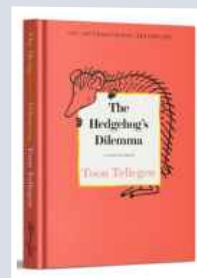
Scuttler's Cove by David Barnett

£9.99 (published 13th February)

Scuttler's Cove is a working village, nestling in dramatic coastal scenery in Cornwall, where life has gone on uninterrupted for centuries – until it was discovered by the rich. Now the quaint harbourfront cottages have been snapped up by second-homers and rental companies, and the locals can barely afford to live in their own town. But something old and terrible is awakening beneath the town's hallowed ground. And with it comes a horror that the residents have fought for generations to keep a secret ... A dark and mysterious folk horror tale of the sea, and a timely exploration of our modern displacement, with a twist that will leave you reeling!



hedgehog is lonely, so he writes a letter, inviting the animals of the forest to visit. But before he can post it, doubts start flooding his mind.



What if they all come at once? What if no one comes at all? What if they judge his prickles? And how will he cope with Rhino's clumsy dancing, Bear's enormous appetite, Toad's explosive anger ... Perhaps, he decides, it's better if no one visits him at all. As winter draws in, can anything save the hedgehog from himself?



The Living Stones: Cornwall by Ithell Colquhoun

£10.99 (published 30th January)

The long-awaited new edition of this classic work. Sacred and beautiful, wild and weird, Colquhoun's Cornwall is a living landscape, where every tree, standing stone and holy well is a palimpsest of folklore –

and a place where everyday reality speaks to the world beyond.

The Hedgehog's Dilemma by Toon Tellegen

£9.99 (published 2nd January)

The first in a series of witty, philosophical and touching animal novels for adults, which have become international bestsellers. The



The House on the Canal: the story of the house that hid Anne Frank by Thomas Harding and Britta Teckentrup

£14.99 (published 2nd January)

Charting 400 years of history, this is the astonishing true story of

the Anne Frank House, beautifully illustrated by Britta Teckentrup. In the middle of Amsterdam, stands a tall, narrow house on a canal. Over the course of four centuries the house has been a home to many – from poor families to wealthy couples, as well as those hiding from persecution. Like the family of a young Jewish girl who sought refuge in the annexe and wrote in her diary of the “old house on the canal”...

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

“It’s been a privilege”: A true son of the soil looks back on four decades caring for glorious gardens

Award-winning Cornish horticulturist John Lanyon has retired after 27 years as a head gardener with the National Trust, and 42 years in professional horticulture. But John won’t be hanging up his trowel: he is now looking forward to spending more time in his own garden.

John has cared for Cornish gardens Trelissick, Glendurgan, Trerice and Bosloe, which he describes as “incredible places, gardens of substance and just the sort of places that inspire me”. Among his many achievements has been a major project to restore the Grade II-listed maze at Glendurgan. He has also been instrumental in developing plans to restore Trelissick’s long dormant walled garden, which will once again be a hub of horticultural excellence, growing traditional and exotic fruits, championing sustainable gardening and safeguarding horticultural skills.

A gardener from a young age, John completed a course with the Royal Horticultural Society, a placement at Tresco on the Isles of Scilly, and a Kew Diploma before becoming Senior Supervisor at RHS Garden Rosemoor in Devon. In 1997 he became Head Gardener at the National Trust’s Cotehele, where he developed his interest in fruit growing and the historic Tamar daffodils for which the property is well known.

When John was managing the garden at Knightshayes in Devon, two major storms in quick succession presented him with a massive clean-up operation – but he says: “The team were brilliant and that taught me so much about the management of people and a garden”, Last year, the RHS awarded John the prestigious Loder Rhododendron Cup and Associate of Honour, to recognise his outstanding contribution to the practice and promotion of horticulture and gardening.

Mike Beeston, Gardens and Parks Consultant for the National Trust in South-West England, says: “John has had an incredible career in horticulture. His knowledge and passion for plants and gardens is second to none. I have had the privilege of working with John and benefited first-hand from the way he generously shares his knowledge and skills with those he works with and trains.”



Reflecting on changes during his time in horticulture, and the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead, John says: “As predicted, we are getting more extremes, and I also think that weather events last longer than in the past. At times, it has been very dry with no rain, even into late autumn, which was not good for the plants. This spring was cold and wet, week after week. People don’t want this – but the garden loved it, and many rhododendrons that had struggled recovered and enjoyed the wet, cool spring. After all, many of them come from the tops of cool, damp mountains.”

John worries about the effect of intense heat on gardens, and the lack of ground water in parts of Cornwall, which can cause even large mature trees to struggle. “What does a changing climate mean for my profession? We are going to have to be open-minded, while keeping the show on the road. We have the knowledge and skills to adapt our gardens, keep them presented to very high levels, and create displays that people want to see. Gardens can still be all the things that people need: sophisticated places that inspire, an educational resource, beautiful places to relax, and a safe haven.”

John hopes the National Trust can help people better understand their relationship with the natural world and feel more motivated to look after it. “It has been a privilege to look after these places. But just as important for me are the people. To see some of my team members move onto great things is gratifying, and so important for the future.”

Photo courtesy of the National Trust

Trevena Cross Nurseries diary: Plan for brighter days ahead, as you relax with a hot chocolate

by Lucy Wickes

First things first: Trevena Cross would like to wish the readers of St Ives Local a very Happy New Year! Spring is on the horizon, and we're gearing up for all the exciting things that 2025 is set to bring.

Now, to the garden! A few 'firefighting' jobs may be on the agenda at the start of the year before plans for spring start to take shape, as Trevena Cross owner Graham explains: "For locations right by the coast like St Ives, it is a good idea to check for wind victims in your garden. Check that anything planted within the last year is still stable and in place. Wind rock can be a particular problem in exposed or coastal gardens; making the plant vulnerable at its roots, and allowing water to collect in the 'socket' where the stem moves at soil level. This can lead to fatal rotting, so if anything feels a bit 'rocky' it won't hurt to stamp it back into place - and to avoid it in the future, try keeping things short!"



There's still time to get some bare root bargains in the ground before the garden awakens for spring - lightweight, cost-effective trees and hedges are often available at good nurseries and garden centres now. Have a chat with the staff to see if bare root could be a good option for you. And although summer may seem a long way into the future right now, you can plan for colourful times ahead, as summer-flowering bulbs are now on the shelves.

It's also time to decide which seed potatoes are for you this year and start chitting those earlies, and choosing onion and garlic sets, to get the 'grow your own' garden off to a good start. If you're into your vegetables, you may also want to check out our new veg stall located at the front of the shop. Freshly replenished with veg from local suppliers or grown here on site, it offers a good excuse for regular visits to Trevena Cross!

At the heart of the site is the Palm Tree Bistro, which serves delicious dishes featuring local produce, including our own. Cosy up by the wood burner on colder days, and if you have a sweet tooth, be sure to also try the popular special hot chocolate, available in multiple flavours, and served with a home-made toasted marshmallow!

Trevena Cross staff are on hand to help with any pre-spring planting enquires, and look forward to helping with any plant-based decisions, whether relating to potatoes, bulbs, bare root or choosing and sowing those early veg seeds.

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St Ives Archive: Shopping and trade in early Victorian Lelant

by *Jan Harris, Archive Volunteer*

Everybody who lives in Lelant today knows only too well that the village has had no shop or Post Office since their closure in 2008. To buy anything – except a drink in the pub or a meal out – means a journey to Carbis Bay, St Ives, Hayle or Penzance.

However, Lelant wasn't always devoid of shops and other trade outlets. During the 12th and 13th centuries, its importance as a trading centre grew considerably, and in 1296, King Edward I granted a Charter for Lelant to be a market town. Much of this trade was seaborne, and fortunes continued fair until the harbour started to silt up during the gales of the 16th century, which buried the area around St Uny Church under tons of sand.

Lelant's importance as a trading centre suffered greatly, while St Ives grew in size and significance. By the 19th century, Lelant was back to being a village – but it was a bustling one. In 1841, the year of the first Census to give the names and addresses of residents and business owners, it is clear that there wasn't much that you needed to leave the village to buy.

But life would have been colder, darker and dirtier than it is today. Wood or coal fires were the only source of heating for warmth, water and cooking, generating a lot of smoke. Thick, heavy clothing was necessary in winter; and when walking around the village, people would have had to avoid puddles, potholes, and most unpleasant of all, piles of manure! The village would have been noisy, too. There were cobblers, blacksmiths, wheelwrights, carpenters and masons, clanging, banging, sawing, filing and chiselling, as well as all the clip-clopping, snorting and whinnying of horses.



Had you been living in Lelant in the early Victorian era, you would have grown as many of your own vegetables as possible – like most of your neighbours – and have an orchard of apples, pears, and possibly plum trees. Local farmers would sell meat, but you would have to visit the grocer for tea and other essentials. There were two general stores – one in Quay Lane, and the other in Lower Lelant. Beer or ale was an “any time of day” drink in the 1840s – much as tea and coffee are today – but many households still brewed their own, with malshouses supplying the necessary ingredients. There is still a Brewery Hill in Lelant today, but the brewery was actually on Brewery Quay, at the bottom of what is now Station Hill. At this time, the Badger Inn was known as the Praed's Arms, and there was also another pub in the village, the Ship Inn.

The photo shows a special occasion at Lelant Methodist Chapel. Interesting details include a man in a working apron (centre), while everyone else is in their Sunday best attire, and a “telegraph boy” handing a letter to a lady (extreme right).

We have several files at the Archive about the history of Lelant available to view, and a fascinating publication for sale, *From the Pages of a Lelant Maltster's Pocket Book*, by John Sell.



St Ives Archive is based at Wesley Methodist Church, St Ives Road, Carbis Bay, St Ives, TR26 2SF. For information about current opening hours, phone 01736 796408, email admin@stivesarchive.org, or visit www.stivesarchive.org. The Archive opened in 1996 and is staffed by volunteers. We are always looking for people to join our enthusiastic team – there are opportunities to learn new skills, carry out research, assist visitors and take part in fundraising events. We offer a valuable service for anyone wishing to obtain historic information about the town. The Archive holds over 35,000 photographs and numerous documents covering fascinating subjects such as art, maritime heritage, tourism and traditional customs, and we also have extensive resources relating to the history of St Ives families. Why not come and visit us?

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What to expect from the market in 2025

Oh for a crystal ball that we could see which direction the property market will take this year. What is certain is that it will be dictated by government policy, ongoing economic headwinds, and consumer behaviour. Everyone has been affected by rising costs throughout 2024, yet the property market in Cornwall seems to remain steady, with a good number of exchanges.

It was certainly a quieter year in terms of tourism down here, but that doesn't detract from the allure of moving to this part of the world. In a league table of house sales towards the end of last year, Cornwall was in third place nationally, behind Leeds and Birmingham. Of course, that doesn't mean all sales are to those from out of county. There are still families moving up the housing ladder in Cornwall, and, popularly these days, too, downsizing.

According to the Office for National Statistics, the average cost of a home in the UK increased by 2.9% in the 12 months to September 2024. Agents nationally believe that house prices will increase by anything between 2% and 4% this year, and that they will continue to rise in 2026 and 2027. There remains an assumption, too, that mortgage rates will fall over time. Perhaps not as fast as was thought after inflation reached the Bank of England's target back in the summer. However, Bank governor Andrew Bailey expects inflation to eventually return to 2% after an autumnal blip upwards, meaning interest rates can fall during 2025. Forecasters are not agreed on figures, but consider that rates could be between 2.75% and 4% by the end of the year.

These signs all point to homes becoming affordable for more of the population in 2025, so if you're considering selling now could be a good time to look at the improvements which will increase the price you could achieve. Our magazine features several local businesses who may be able to help. And, of course, a well-respected, independent local estate agent will have all the knowledge and experience to get you the best price.

How a pub can seal a property deal

New research has revealed that the local pub influenced 24% of homeowners in their decision to buy their current property. More than one-third (36%) even said they would refuse to put an offer in for a home if they deemed it too far away from the local pub. Anything over one mile would be a deal-breaker.

The research, from Zoopla, shines a light on the important role pubs play in the lives of the British public and their home-buying decisions. The





importance of a good pub is clear, with more than four in ten (42%) believing the quality of the local pub is important when buying a home. This figure rises to 48% for men.

For many, a trip to the pub is a standard part of the home-viewing process. More than a third (36%) of homeowners said they had previously visited a pub before or after a home viewing. Seventy-six per cent said this was because they believe pubs are 'a reflection of the community', while 49% believe it's important to find places to socialise locally. Among those who have previously visited a pub post-viewing, more than half (53%) said they decided to go ahead with the home purchase while there.

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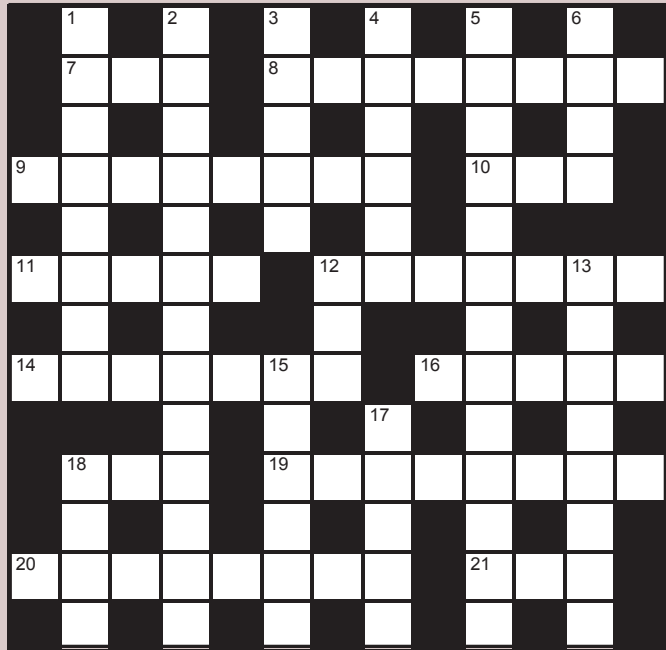
Quick Crossword

Across

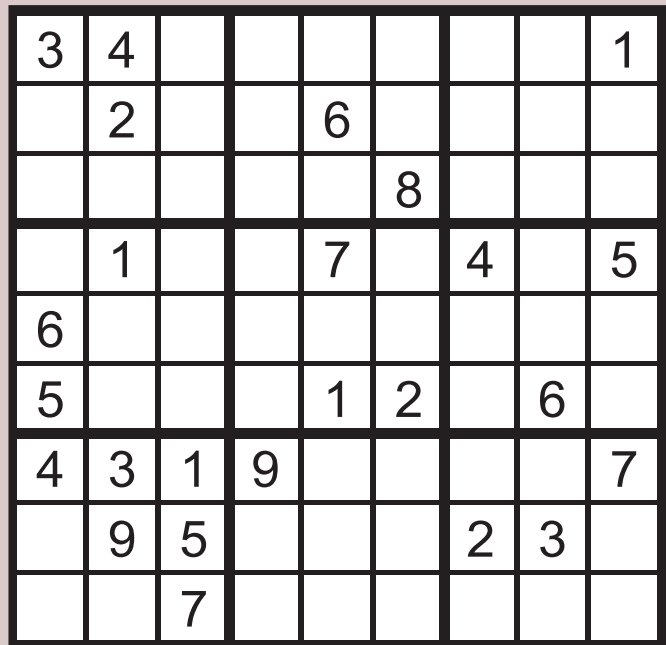
- 7 Chopper (3)
- 8 Longing (8)
- 9 Manicurist's implement (4,4)
- 10 Worthless piece of cloth (3)
- 11 Mountainous (5)
- 12 Favourable termination of endeavours (7)
- 14 Straddling (7)
- 16 Allow to enter (5)
- 18 Powdery residue (3)
- 19 Courage (8)
- 20 Charismatic (8)
- 21 Female sheep (3)

Down

- 1 Pet birds (8)
- 2 Mobile (8,5)
- 3 Having the form of a song (5)
- 4 Capital of Lesotho (6)
- 5 Unheard-of (13)
- 6 Cosy (4)
- 12 Prosecute (3)
- 13 Unmarried woman (8)
- 15 Discussion (6)
- 17 Choose (5)
- 18 Apart (4)



Sudoku



All Answers on page 46



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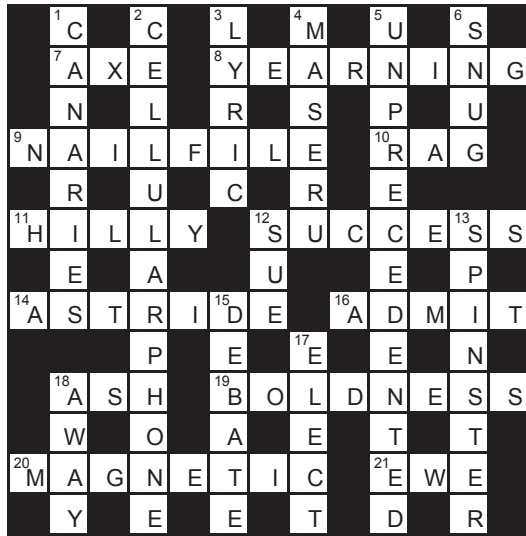
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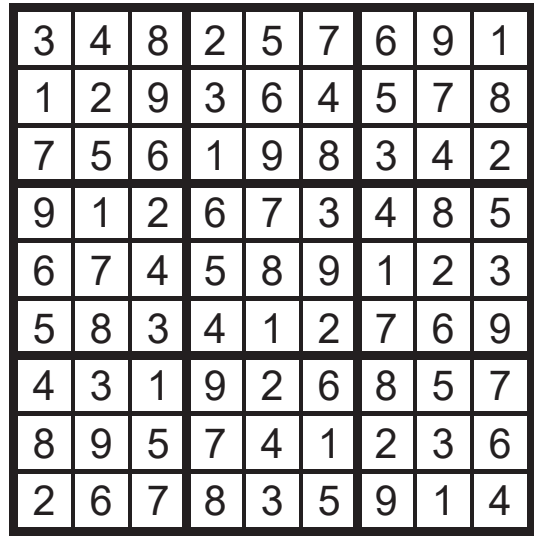
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Crossword Answers



Sudoku Answers



Liz's Quizzes, answers

1. Enid Blyton; 2. Saturn; 3. Buckinghamshire; 4. Eleanor Rigby; 5. Empire State Building; 6. Jonas; 7. China; 8. 12; 9. 1986; 10. Kid; 11. Table tennis; 12. Judy Garland; 13. Annie Nightingale; 14. Parrot; 15. Hay; 16. 20; 17. 50; 18. Billy Crystal; 19. Bungalow; 20. Noo Noo.

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