



NEWSLETTER



April to June 2024

A Warm Place to be

Since Autumn 2022, on Monday afternoons the Village Hall has provided a warm friendly place for people to meet up and socialise. The community warm space at the village hall has been a wonderful success with many highlights over the last few months including Christmas and birthday celebrations. They were also visits from West Lindsey District Council Energy Efficiency Officer and Wellbeing Lincs.

Originally **started in October 2022** by four members from the Sturton by Stow Women's Institute (WI), the weekly **Winter Warmer** sessions were made possible by the generosity of the Village hall committee who gave free access and heating, the Parish Council (soup and rolls) and donations from attendees and the 2022 Walking Christmas market. Two dozen or more people have enjoyed getting together for a chat around a warm soup and a hot drink. Autumn 2023 saw the return of Winter Warmers on a twice monthly basis until the



NHS funded Warm Space complemented the rest of the month.

Starting on the 15th April 12-2pm, and twice monthly during the spring and summer months we are very pleased to be able to continue providing a community cafe with the support from the NHS Community funding. Pop in for a friendly chat, cuppa and light bites. Everyone is welcome, there is no charge, but donations are welcome.

We are excited that with the support of the **Co-op Wellbeing Walks** will be run on the same dates as the community cafe. The Wellbeing walks are short walks, run by friendly, specially trained volunteer walk leaders, who are on hand to provide encouragement and support. **All walks are free of charge and are open to everyone** – you don't need to preregister, just come along and join us. Meet outside the Sturton by Stow Village Hall 11am.

The cafe is well supported by wonderful volunteers from the village and we always welcome anyone interested to pop in. So if you would like to be part of our lively social gatherings, do come from on Mondays from 11am. Dates at the back.

Contact Grace for further information: 07943 721 611



Grant funds School Library improvements

The library at Sturton by Stow Primary School has always had a special place in the heart of our school community. Children and staff enjoy using it, sharing and recommending books which entertain us, inform us and help us to learn. As much as we loved the library it was in real need of refurbishment. The furniture was tired, the walls needed a refresh, and the books were in a bit of a muddle. This meant that we weren't making the most of the library's potential. Friends of the School Association (FOSSA) applied for funding through a grant aid application from the Parish Council. They were successful and the Parish Council were able to supply the funding towards the Library Project which allowed us to make the changes we needed to enhance the space.



We excitedly made a plan and set about making the changes needed. The school community worked together to paint the space a calming blue and began making changes using our theme of the sea.

The walls have been decorated with eye catching underwater scenes and the room has been filled with comfortable and inviting seats, rugs and bean bags. We took out old and tired shelving and replaced it with new and bright furniture, and most importantly invested in new books.

After a few months of hard work, the library has been recently opened. Children and staff loved the changes and the excitement around school was wonderful.

Our school community is incredibly grateful to the support that FOSSA and the Parish Council were able to give towards this project and the impact upon our children's learning and reading for pleasure will be felt for many years to come.

A WORD FROM YOUR EDITOR

The first copy on my watch was well received, it seems, so I'm still here. Mindful of all residents who do not have access to the internet or social media, the Newsletter intends to be informative and useful to let everyone know all the wonderful community activities that go on in the village. Of course this cannot happen without your help. If you want to put something in the next newsletter, or report on activities and shout out about successes, please email me by the next deadline:

21st May for July - Sept

I look forward to hearing from you.

Muriel



Youth Club benefits from Co-op grant

At Sturton Youth Club we have had a very busy and productive few

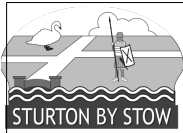
months recently! Our academic year has started incredibly strong & we have seen a big uptake in numbers coming through the door. We had a successful night on the recreation field selling glow sticks to raise money for the youth club on bonfire night which has further helped us be able to plan more exciting activities!

In December, we hosted our annual Christmas party with two hired inflatables; a rodeo bull and a bouncy castle while also putting out food for our members to reward them for their continued loyalty towards the club.

We have also begun planning for our latest graffiti art project on the stage which will also feature a memorial piece for Marcus which will be completed in late February.

Rather incredibly, we have also been awarded a huge £3932 in funding through the cooperative community champions programme which we have decided to invest part of to put an air hockey table in the youth club!

Ahead, we are hoping to run more trips such as Playzone, Gridline Karting and Alton Towers!



New Chairman for the Parish Council

Following Carol Gilbert resignation from the Parish Council, **Martin Cook** was elected as the New Chair at the February meeting. He agreed to be interviewed by the Editor. This is what he said.

How long have you lived in the village?

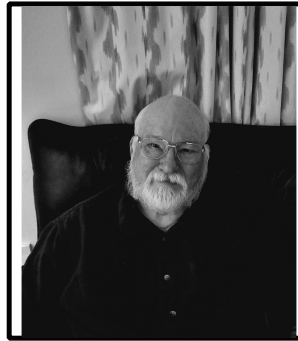
Ten years. We moved while I was still working for the London Underground and commuting to Kings Cross on a daily basis. I joined the Parish Council 4 years ago, once my other commitments had subsided. My focus now is more at local level, so joining the Parish Council seemed to be the right thing to do next. I am a person who likes giving back and get stuck in.

Was becoming Chair a burning ambition or did it 'happen'?

I evolved into it. Carol left with little notice and put it this way I didn't say 'No' loud enough!! My approach to the role is to make sure everyone gets a say. I can't do it without the help of the other Councillors. We're fortunate to have people with specialist expertise who I can delegate pieces of work to.

What did you do before becoming a Parish Councillor?

I've had 3 careers! The first as a racing sailing instructor, the second as a financial advisor and the 3rd as a trainer for the London



Underground.

What in your view are the Parish Council priorities?

Everything the Council does is important to somebody, therefore all the tasks have to be taken equally seriously. Our role is a balancing act between the needs of everybody.

What do you hope to achieve during your time as Chair?

I want to do a good job, be considered a Safe Pair of Hands and above all I want to avoid making it a personality race. We work as a group, a team.

Everyone contributes to discussions. Every voice is heard. Planning is what takes the most time in preparation and during meetings. I would like to commend the Councillors for their hard work, which they do in their own time. They all get paid the same, i.e. nothing. We have a great range of skills on our

Council so bear with us if you feel things aren't moving fast enough. For those of you not 'online', if you wish to raise something to the Parish Council attention, write a longhand letter and drop it in the Old School Room letter box. It will be picked up by the Clerk and brought to the Council attention.

Thank you Martin for taking the time to tell us a bit more about yourself.

Muriel

Speed-watch



The Sturton by Stow Community Speed Watch group is continuing its activities monitoring the speed of traffic through the village. The vast majority of vehicles stick to the speed limit. The

observance of the speed limit in the village is for the benefit and safety of the whole community.

Six Speed Watch sessions were held in January 2024 recording a total of 1215 vehicles of which 32 (2.6%) were travelling at 35 mph or higher in a 30 mph zone. The registered keeper of those vehicles will receive a letter detailing what was recorded and offering advice.

Police Constable Samantha Key (the new Community Beat Manager for our area) also joined the Speed Watch volunteers on one session. The aim being to support the Speed Watch team, and the local residents, by ensuring the most prolific speeders are dealt with promptly.

The Speed Watch volunteers found this very helpful, in particular the idea of liaising with other Speed Watch groups in the area and methods of monitoring the vehicle flow along a road. After the success of this visit we hope to continue with similar sessions over the summer.

If you would like to know more about Community Speed Watch there is plenty of information on the Lincolnshire Police website. Search for "lincs speed watch" and then select "Community Speed Watch".

We are always looking for more volunteers to join our group and if you have an hour or two to spare each month you would be made most welcome (full training and equipment is provided).

If you are interested in joining the group or have any questions about Community Speed Watch please email the local coordinator: cswsturtonbystow@gmail.com



An Appeal to villagers - please clean up after your dog

There is a growing concern over the amount of dog poo on the village paths and poo being left in bags in and around the villages and even in residents gardens. It is a dog owners' responsibility to pick up after your dog and dispose of it in the many dog bins we have available. Allowing a dog to foul in any public area is both irresponsible and illegal.

A person who allows their dog to foul and doesn't dispose of it properly is liable to a £100 fine (fixed notice penalty). If they fail to pay the fine, then a prosecution might follow, and if successful this could lead to the court issuing a fine of up to £1000

Most importantly, though, is the actual danger of dogs' faeces being left in the way of people, primarily children. It doesn't take much for faeces to transfer from paths to children's toys, pushchair/bike wheels. Dog faeces can cause blindness. Think of the children playing in the village and think of others.

NOTICES

HELP NEEDED!



The village hall serves a very important role in the community, providing affordable crucial space for groups to meet, people to hire the hall for events and even being a safe space in case of crisis. This takes organising, planning, communication and keeping records.

The Village Hall is managed by a committee. In particular the role of Treasurer is crucial to the smooth running of the hall.

The committee URGENTLY needs new members as some of the long standing members are standing down. The current treasurer is happy to offer support in the hand over of the role.

If you would like to contribute your skills by giving a few hours a month to this important task, please get in touch with John Leggott, Dennis Taylor or John Crust.

Sturton and Stow Motorsports Club



It's been a while since I last put anything out about the Sturton Club. So the 2024 season is now underway and all the work that's been going on in many sheds and garages all over the UK during the

winter closed period is now starting to show. However the January auto-sport show at the NEC in Birmingham gave me some proud moments.

Jamie Hornby is the 2023 UKAC men's class8 champion from the Sturton club and his elder sister Kelly Read is the ladies UKAC class8 champion from the White rose club. Both were invited to perform in the live action area at the show. The Sturton club was also supported at the NEC show by Wayne Yeardeleys Class10 and Lee Talbots Class8 which were on our sports static display. As some of you may recall the Sturton club did have a stand at the 2023 Lincolnshire



show and I would like to thank all the local Sturton residents for coming to talk to us and share a few memories of the club.

The Sturton race dates for the 2024 season are as follows

Sunday 12th of May National Qualifier

Sunday 16th of June National Qualifier

August bank holiday Sunday and

Monday the traditional Fastest man on grass

Saturday and Sunday 14th and 15th September Sturton and Stow motor sports club are proud to be hosting the round 5 of the UKAC .

Anyone interested can keep up with the club on our Facebook page Sturton and Stow Autograss .

Come along to any of the above meetings at our track at Caenby Corner.



Rescued Horses Help Raise Awareness of Equine Welfare

Visitors can learn how to spot a horse in need and find out how one of the UK's largest equine welfare charities care for these often misunderstood animals, on the **Bransby Horses Welfare Trail**.

Winding around the 600-acre site, visitors are taken on a wheelchair and pushchair friendly walk where information posters and questions about equine health help people test their knowledge and find out interesting facts about horses' health.

Senior press officer Maria Thompson said: "Most people know about the needs of dogs and cats but equines are less understood. We hope the trail will help to engage people with our cause to make sure every equine has a life worth living, promote responsible horse ownership and ultimately reduce the need for our intervention."

Bransby Horses, like many other equine welfare charities rely on members of the public to report or raise concerns if they see or know of equines in need, as many are in fields



and out of sight.

Last year the charity dealt with 1622 horses as either new or ongoing welfare concerns, underlying the importance of promoting

responsible horse ownership. With around 50,000 visitors a year Bransby Horses hope the trail will demystify the world of equine welfare for both adults and children while raising awareness of the need for charities like theirs.

Bransby Horses is free to visit and take part in the trail. There is also a café with special offers on homemade afternoon teas, soup and scones through March, second hand tack and charity shop as well as a gift shop.

Dogs are welcome but must be kept on a lead.

For further information visit BransbyHorses.co.uk



Jubilee Woods

Despite the wet weather and standing water we were able to organise three working parties on sunny days to do some much needed maintenance like tree thinning, streaming paths and clearing. Thanks to everyone who turned up help. Now the bird nesting season is upon us, this work will stop until next winter. The wood is accessible for walks and picnics. If you've never been there, why not make a day of it, walking or cycling from the village to take a look around.



Look out for bullfinches and long tail tits, the more visible of the birds you may see there. It is best to cycle or walk as there is very limited car parking and the road side can get quite boggy.



Sturton W.I. are back into the swing of things having had our local and Federation AGM's it's all systems go. Some of our members have visited the Old Nic at Gainsborough enjoying an

informative talk and tour and a delicious afternoon tea! Some of our members entered their spring flowers into our federation Spring Extravaganza, all flowers and displays entered are judged professionally well done to those who were successful! Our April speaker will be telling us about the history of Fascinators and how to wear them correctly! Members have been on Federation workshops for knitting and stitching and Creative writing. With trips Behind the scenes at the Theatre Royal, Lincoln.

If you would like to come along to one of our meetings it's the second Tuesday in every month, 7 for 7.30 at Sturton village hall. Or if you would like to meet a few of us socially we meet at the Cross Keys the first Friday in the month at 10.30 for coffee and of course cake!

Maria Scott Secretary Sturton by Stow W.I.



The **Sturton and District Shed Club** had a successful, if cold day when participating in the Christmas walking market on the 2nd December. Craft items produced by club



As you can see the **Bowls Club** thoroughly enjoyed their Annual Christmas Lunch which took place at Thonock Park in December. 23 They are delighted to hear they will be receiving the **Community Champion**

Dates for the Diary

Parish Council Meetings, Old School Room

Wednesday 3rd April, 7:30pm

Wednesday 1st May 7:30pm

Wednesday 5th June 7:30pm

Members of the public are welcome to attend.

Neighbourhood Plan review consultation dates:

Sturton by Stow: Village Hall Market

Saturday 6th April 10.00-12.00

Stow: St Mary's Church

Thursday 9th April 13.00-16.00

For more details check <https://sturton-stow.parish.lincolnshire.gov.uk/> or email Sturtonpc1@gmail.com

The Plough Sturton Football Club, The Rec.

Sundays, Kick off 12:45 (or 19:30 on Weds)

07/04 Vs HBW United Men (Sunday)

10/04 Vs MH Blue Lion FC First (Wednesday)

17/04 Vs Metheringham FC First (Wednesday)

28/04 Vs Black Swan FC (Sunday)

For up to date info on fixtures visit the club's Facebook page

Sturton Plough FC

Wellbeing Walks and Community Cafe, Village Hall

Approx 45 mn walk from **11am** followed by refreshments at the Community Cafe **12 - 2pm**

Mondays 15th & 29th April, 13th & 20th May, 3rd & 17th June

Sturton & Stow History Society, Sturton Village Hall

7:30pm All welcome. Refreshments & Raffle

17th April 'Stone Masonry at Lincoln Cathedral' presented by Rachael Wragg who is a cathedral stonemason

15th May 'The Making of a Memorial' presented by Dave Gilbert who is losses archivist at the IBCC

19th June 'A Lincolnshire View of Woman's Suffrage' presented by Elaine Johnson.

Christmas reports

members proved to be very popular with the many shoppers who visited our stall on Ashfield.

The club is very grateful for everyone's support.

Monies raised will help towards the running & future development of the club. Contact

sturtonanddistrictshedclub19@gmail.com

Award from the local Lincolnshire Co-operative in April.

They will be using this for purchasing some new equipment as some of the bowls were new 20 years ago!

The club would love to see you on **Mondays at 7.00pm.**

They would like to give a special shout to to the ladies as they definitely need more.

Of course if you are of the opposite sex they'll naturally let you come too!!

Christmas Lights/Display

2023 Results

1st Place

47 Saxilby Road

2nd Place

1 Millers Court



Indoor Bowls Club, Village Hall

Mondays 7pm - 9pm

Bumpcamp, Village Hall

Tuesdays 2pm- 2.45pm

Line Dancing, Village Hall

Tuesdays 7:30pm - 9pm (except every 2nd Tuesday)

W.I. Village Hall

7pm - 9pm every 2nd Tuesday of the month

Art Group, Village Hall

Wednesdays 10am - 1pm

Karate, Village Hall

Mondays and Wednesdays 5:15pm - 6:30pm

Judo, Village Hall

Thursdays 6:30pm - 7:30pm

Barre Pilates, Village Hall

Fridays 10:45 - 11:30am

Zumba, Village Hall

Fridays 7pm to 8pm

Market and Coffee Morning, Village Hall

Saturdays 6th April, 4th May and 1st June from **10 - 12**

SRK Barbers, Village Hall

Every other Saturdays, call Sian on 07958 058901 or check her Facebook page

80th Anniversary D-Day Event 6th June 9:15pm lighting the Beacon at the Recreational ground.