

Save the date for GO Festival 2026 - two days of free family fun across West Lindsey

Gainsborough and Market Rasen are set to burst into life this summer as the much-loved GO Festival returns for 2026, expanding across two towns over two days with a vibrant programme of creativity, culture and community celebration.

Following the success of last year's event in Gainsborough, organisers are delighted to announce that GO Festival will take place in Market Rasen on the evening of Friday 5 June – 4pm to 8pm - before returning to Gainsborough Market Place on Saturday 6 June, running from 10am to 4pm.

GO Festival is a FREE, family-friendly celebration, showcasing a mix of professional acts, community performances and hands-on creative activities designed to inspire and entertain audiences of all ages. More programme details for both locations will be announced over the coming weeks, but visitors can expect a welcoming atmosphere full of energy, colour and opportunities to join in.

One of the highlights already confirmed for both towns is The Birdcage Stage, which will headline the festival with its spectacular show *Cartoon Capers*. Set inside a giant golden birdcage, the performance promises a joyful, action-packed adventure featuring aerial circus, physical comedy and visual theatre. Inspired by classic cartoons such as *Tom & Jerry* and *Tweetie Pie*, the show is designed to delight the whole family with its heart-warming story and larger-than-life characters.

Families can also take part in the Birdy Disco at The Birdcage stage in Gainsborough. Throughout the day, drop-in craft sessions will give children the chance to make their own bird headdresses before joining the colourful group of birdy characters for a big disco inside the cage at 3.30pm. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Councillor Emma Bailey, Chair of the Prosperous Communities Committee, said: "By bringing GO Festival to both Market Rasen and Gainsborough, the event continues to support West Lindsey's growing reputation for accessible, high-quality cultural events, celebrating creativity while bringing communities together."

The events are made possible thanks to funding from West Lindsey District Council, Gainsborough Town Council and Market Rasen Town Council.

Residents and visitors are encouraged to save the dates, sign up to the council's Events' Newsletter, and follow Discover Gainsborough on Facebook and Instagram for further announcements as the full programme is revealed.

