



STOW BUGLE

THE NEWSLETTER FOR
THE RESIDENTS OF
STOW PARISH

Welcome to our Autumn online edition. We hope that you are all keeping safe and well. Please circulate to anyone you know in the Stow area and, if you know someone who does not have access to a computer, please print them off a copy. There will be a copy placed on both the Stow village and St Mary's noticeboards.

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Parish Council.

The Parish Council website can be found at:
<https://stow.parish.lincolnshire.gov.uk>

The Council meetings in July and September were on zoom. **The next meeting is scheduled for 11.30am 16th November.** If you are interested in attending, please contact the Clerk in advance on: stowparishclerk@gmail.com

Stow Volunteers 2020 - Covid

If anyone needs help because of self-isolating, the contact details are:

- the Stow Community Facebook page
- 01427 788725 or
- Stovirus@gmail.com

PLAY PARK

The new seat and picnic table have been installed. We are sourcing some hedging to fill the gaps that have appeared over the years. In the meantime, dog owners please see that your dogs remain on their leads in the area, as there have been problems with dogs soiling in the play park. Please remember, for health reasons, dogs are not allowed in the play park.

STOP PRESS

Sturton and Stow Gift and Craft Fair 12-4 Sunday 6th December. Maps of stall locations available on Facebook, at the Cross Keys and Sturton Stores. Socially distanced chance to buy local products.

6pm Christmas Eve doorstep bell ringing

There is no carol service this year, but join others in the area ringing a bell on your doorstep at 6pm on 24th December.

STOW LIVING ADVENT CALENDAR

What is a Living Advent Calendar?

Living Advent Calendars originated in Sweden and are a kind of Christmas community art project. This December we are organising one for Stow!

The idea is that volunteers from 24 houses in Stow will decorate and light up a window in their house with festive decorations in December. One window is 'opened' each day from 1st to the 24th December and remains illuminated until 12th night (6th January). The aim is simply to have fun and create a nice way of bringing the community together. It isn't a competition and we hope that people of all generations will want to get involved. As there have not been the usual community events in the village this year this will hopefully be an opportunity to come together by cheering up our neighbours, giving people who are out for a walk/ cycle ride something to look for and appreciate, and all residents and their children/ grandchildren the chance to show their imagination!

We'll create a map of which houses will reveal their windows on which days, and share the map with the local community so that everyone in Stow can enjoy walking around the village spotting the houses taking part.

What do we do to take part?

The main thing is that you decorate a window in your house that can be seen from the road/ public footpath, and then reveal it on your specified day in Advent – if possible have it lit up either with decorative lights or have the room light on. No-one will be coming on to your property to view the window, so there won't be any security or social distancing issues. If you can remember to turn on any lights in your window for the rest of Advent that would be great – but if you don't, it doesn't matter.

What kind of decorations should we use?

Anything you like! You can do any type of festive decoration. The only rules are that it needs to be centred around a window that can be revealed or switched on, and it needs to have your number as part of the display so that people know you are part

of the Advent calendar. Maybe cut out some folded snowflakes and stick them to the inside of your window, knit or crochet a snowman and hang it in the window, draw a picture, hang some baubles on a piece of Christmas tree, make a little wreath, do something on the theme of the number you are given e.g. '5 gold rings' if you get 5th December, depict your favourite Christmas Carol or Christmas story.... Use your imagination – but it doesn't have to be complicated or elaborate - there is no need to go and buy anything expensive!

How will we know where the windows are each day?

We will put a map/ leaflet of the Living Advent Calendar on the Stow Community Facebook page, on the notice board in the bus shelter, in a window at the Cross Keys, will email it out to anyone who asks for a copy or pop a copy through the letterbox of anyone who is not 'on the internet' and would still like to follow the trail.

How do we take part?

If you'd like to volunteer to decorate one of your windows (and we really hope that lots of you will get in the festive spirit and take part), please contact either Hayley at the Cross Keys on 01427 788314 or Hayleyb44@hotmail.com, or Clare on 07805057583 or clare_ella@hotmail.com or by messaging the Stow Community Facebook page, **by Friday 13th**

November, so that we can allocate the numbers in plenty of time for you to get planning ready for the first person to start revealing their window on 1st December. Thank you from Hayley and Clare.

A trip down memory lane.....



Defibrillator

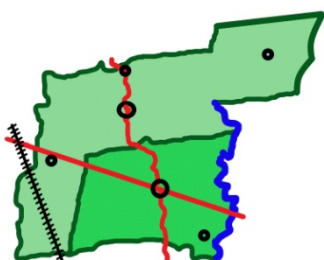
Just a reminder to everyone that the village defibrillator is located on the wall of the Cross Keys - in the little courtyard on the west side of the building, near the well. We have not yet been able to organise training sessions due to COVID restrictions, but this video <https://youtu.be/YbjcCjSNvUY> and instructions from the BHF website are a good reminder of how to use it. Please note though that 'rescue breaths' are no longer advised during the COVID pandemic.

If you come across someone who is unconscious, unresponsive, not breathing or not breathing normally, they're in **cardiac arrest**. The most important thing is to call 999 and **start CPR** to keep the blood flowing to the brain and around the body. . After a cardiac arrest, every minute without CPR and defibrillation reduces someone's chance of survival by 10 per cent.

If you're on your own, don't interrupt the CPR to go and get a defibrillator. If it's possible, send someone else to find one. When you call 999, the operator can tell you the code to open the defibrillator box.

Update on Stow Recreation Fund projects

1. **Electronic winding system for the village clock in the Church tower** – The attentive ones amongst you will have noticed there was a temporary lack of striking from the clock a few weeks ago, but all systems are now 'go' with the clock and strike working well. Many thanks to Nigel Gray of Grayfox Swimming Pools for very generously donating the materials and labour required to ensure the electricity supply in the Church tower matched the specifications for the winding system to be installed.
2. **New bench seats near Pooh sticks bridge/ Green Lane junction, and a wheelchair-friendly picnic bench in the playpark** - The observant ones amongst you will have noticed that the bench seat on the northern end of Green Lane and the wheelchair accessible picnic bench in the playpark have now both been installed. Many thanks to those of you who have **VOLUNTEERED** to take a damp cloth and wipe the benches down occasionally, and also report back if there are any maintenance issues. We are working on a rota and will be in touch very soon (if we haven't been already by the time you read this).
3. **Village name signs** - After finally hearing from Highways with a partial response to the outstanding issues, we are working with the manufacturer on final designs for approval by the Parish Council and Highways. Watch this space!
Clare Ella Secretary - Tel 07805 057583 or email: StowRecreationFund@outlook.com



STURTON BY STOW AND STOW NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN PUBLIC CONSULTATION 2 NOV 2020 – 14 DEC 2020

The **Neighbourhood Planning Group** has continued to develop the new **Neighbourhood Plan**, albeit at a slower pace thanks to the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic. The draft plan is now at a stage where all our thoughts and deductions need to be subject to formal public scrutiny over a 6 week period which will take place between the 2nd November to the 14th December. Historically, this will have included public meetings, which unfortunately are not possible under the current Coronavirus legislation. It is, however, possible to undertake the consultation using on-line access through our website, www.sturtonandstowplan.co.uk where you will find the draft **Neighbourhood Plan** and a link to an anonymous response survey.

We have also been able to arrange limited **pre-bookable**, access in the Sturton Village Hall where a member of the group will be in attendance, **at a social distance**, to answer immediate queries. Our leaflet provides further details.

Stop Press – Village Hall sessions will resume after lockdown.

STURTON AND STOW AUTUMN EVENT

Mick Moore, Chairman of the Show, writes: The weather was not kind to us, but that did not daunt the spirits of local residents, who turned out in the rain on Saturday 3rd of October to view the over 40 scarecrows displayed in people's gardens.

Many thanks to all who contributed to the success of the Event: all those who entered the scarecrow or online competitions; Les Stothard, who took on the difficult task of judging the scarecrows; our judges for the online classes; the volunteers working behind the scenes, especially our Secretary, Rebecca, and Jack and Nathan for their work on the new website; our sponsors Paul and Joan Wright, Lincolnshire Coop and Stow Parish Council; and, last but not least, to all of you who supported the Event.

Thanks also are due to the Cross Keys, who sold Dan's sausage rolls, the proceeds being split between Stow and Sturton.

In 2021 the Show will be back and, given its popularity, so will the scarecrow competition. See you all at the Show on 2nd October 2021.

There were also a number of online entries in photography and art; both they and the winning scarecrow entries can now be viewed on <http://www.sturtonandstowshow.com> Here though is the winning Scarecrow entry, Medway Street Party, followed by some of our local entries:



And finally.....

For several years Stow Fun Raisers have purchased bulbs and have planted them on the village green. This year the Cross Keys split the proceeds from the sale of the sausage rolls between Stow and Sturton for us to purchase bulbs. Thank you to the Cross Keys and to Janet and David, who will be planting them out in Stow.