



Photograph courtesy of Brenda Langton

## Welcome to our AUTUMN 2025 edition.

Welcome to the latest edition of the Bugle. We try to circulate the Bugle, and also periodic Stow updates, via email as well as publishing it on our Parish website and extracts on the Stow Community and Event page on Facebook. If you did not receive this directly and would like to be on our mailing list, please send your name and email address to Clare, who has kindly agreed to manage it for us, on: [stowvillage@outlook.com](mailto:stowvillage@outlook.com)

Please forward the Bugle to anyone you know in the Stow area and, if you know someone who does not have access to a computer, please print a copy for them. There will be a copy placed on the Stow village noticeboard, in St Mary's and on the Parish Council website.

If you know of someone new who has moved into the Parish (Stow, Normanby, Coates and the surrounding rural area), please let the Parish Clerk know on [stowparishclerk@gmail.com](mailto:stowparishclerk@gmail.com) and we will arrange to deliver a Welcome Pack to them. Since we introduced the Welcome Pack in March 2021, we have welcomed 42 new households to the Stow area. If you have moved into the parish and not received a pack, our apologies, please contact the Clerk and we will get one delivered to you.

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# STOW BUGLE

## THE NEWSLETTER FOR THE RESIDENTS OF STOW PARISH

*Stow, Normanby by Stow, Coates by Stow, and the surrounding rural area.*

### Stow Parish Council

#### Stow Parish Council Meeting Dates 2025/2026

All residents of Stow Parish are welcome to attend the meetings.

Commencing 7pm, The Cross Keys

2025: 6th Nov.

2026: 8th Jan, 5th March.

#### A Polite Notice from your Parish Councillors: Items Placed in Stow Cemetery



We wanted to make residents aware that there have been one or two recent reports of damage to memorial items, such as vases, at gravesides in the village cemetery. In these instances, items appear to have been placed outside of the space allotted to burial plots and headstones, putting them at risk of damage from the equipment used by our grass cutting contractor. We intend to place a sign at the cemetery to advise of this risk and to encourage all visitors to place items only within the immediate boundary of plots and headstones.

#### Facebook Page

Stow Parish Council now has a dedicated Facebook page to share important parish council meeting documents and updates with residents in addition to the Stow PC website. Please note that this FB page isn't monitored for messages and comments so please direct any questions or issues to [stowparishclerk@gmail.com](mailto:stowparishclerk@gmail.com).

#### Help and Advice for Job Seekers at Free Training and Jobs Fair

Employment opportunities, careers guidance and training across West Lindsey will be highlighted at a FREE event next month. The West Lindsey Employment & Skills Partnership is hosting an autumn Jobs and Training Fair, on Wednesday 8th October 2025, at the Riverside Room in Gainsborough.

This interactive and informative event will take place between 10am-2pm and offers residents access to help and advice from employers, training providers and advice agencies.

The **Mobile library** calls in the village on a monthly basis at 1pm – 1.45pm, stopping on Ingham Road by South Drive. It will be in Stow on the following dates: 22<sup>nd</sup> October, 19<sup>th</sup> November and 7<sup>th</sup> December 2025. 01522 782010 for more information



**PLANNED ROADWORKS**  
Cadent on South Drive  
September 29th to Oct 3rd  
Traffic control alternate one-way

### STURTON AND STOW HISTORY SOCIETY

15<sup>th</sup> Oct- The Greatest Knight & The Battle of Lincoln Fair  
by Nigel Amos

19<sup>th</sup> Nov- The Black Prince of Scunthorpe by Adrian Gray

Go to the Society's Facebook page to message.  
All talks on a Wednesday in Sturton Village Hall at 7.30pm.  
Tea/coffee/raffle.

### YOUR SHOW NEEDS YOU!

Sturton & Stow Agricultural & Horticultural Association -  
Hon. Treasurer Vacancy

The Show Committee are looking for an enthusiastic person to take on the post of Hon. Treasurer. Possibly someone with a finance background though help will be given on how our system works. We only have about five meetings per year and any other work during the year can be done from home.

The Show is always on the first Saturday in October and the person must be available during the week leading up to and including Show day.

If you might be interested more details can be obtained by contacting the Hon. Show Secretary Carol Moore - 01427788681 or cm28a@[hotmail.com](mailto:hotmail.com)

### CONGRATULATIONS

Another successful afternoon yesterday, Stow bell ringers once again came second in the Lincoln DG striking contest, so we retained our plaque! It was held at Messingham and we came second to Messingham, who obviously had home advantage. 7 teams entered, so we did very well indeed.  
Chris Turner

### POST OFFICE CHANGES

The Post Office is now in a mobile unit, which will be parked in or near the Cross Keys car park. Opening hours are now two sessions a week. The Post Office will be at the Cross Keys:  
**Tuesday 9-10.30am** \*(Sturton 10.45 – 12.15 and Torksey 1-1.45pm)  
**Thursday 3 – 4.45pm** (11.30 – 12.15pm Torksey and 1-2.45 at Sturton).  
\* in Sturton it is parked near the Village Hall and in Torksey in the forecourt of The Elms.

### A GOOD READ

Over the past 10 years visitors to the Post Office in Stow Minster will have seen and used our pre-loved Bookstall. With the Post Office's new mobile service, The Bookstall remains in the North Transept of the church and it is available every day with a range of books, whether fiction or factual, and magazines. Books are sold at 50p each and magazines 10p each. Novels are popular and we welcome donations of these especially (maybe even return the ones you have taken and read). Occasionally we may have jigsaws or knitting wool! Donations of books can be left at the bookstall.



**St Mary's church clock**  
(or more correctly, Stow village clock housed in  
St Mary's tower.)

This clock was brought back into use for the millennium, thanks to George and Sylvia Ella's hard work. About three years ago an automatic winding system was installed, thanks to the Stow Recreation Fund.

BUT this year, a few things have gone wrong. The clock ran perfectly, but the strike was erratic. We tried to identify the cause of the erratic striking, but failed. We got professional help, which unfortunately resulted in the clock being out of action for a couple of months. Now the clock is running smoothly again, but the strike is still out of action. The cause of the erratic striking has been identified - a seriously worn bush. Replacing this worn bush requires the clock to be taken apart, which is a fairly substantial job. We have a quotation for this work to be undertaken - a little over £2000 + VAT. We therefore need to raise this money. Can you help in any way? So far initial pledges come to around £500, so we need about £1500 more.

We want to do this repair before the end of 2025, in order to ensure the church can reclaim any VAT paid out to the contractor. If we can raise sufficient pledges to cover the majority of this outstanding £1500, we can go ahead and get the contractor here.

Any pledges or money donations, please contact me (788110), David Justham (788725) or Chris Potts (07702692463).

Thank you  
Chris Turner

**Living Advent Calendar**

You may have seen in the recent village email out that we are hoping to do another Living Advent Calendar this year in Stow - but we need lots more volunteers!

For those of you who are new to the village (or haven't taken part before), each day throughout December a different household in the village decorates and lights up a window that is visible from the road or a public footpath with decorations/ pictures etc including the date - eg. maybe on 23rd December lots of paper snowflakes and a number 23. There are lots of photos of previous windows on the village Facebook page - a few attached.. It's not a competition, and lots of locals enjoy walking round the village looking at the different windows. If you would like to do a window this December, please reply to this email, or the thread on the village Facebook page or contact Clare on [07805057583](tel:07805057583) before 10th October. If there are at least 20 volunteers by then (currently only 8) we will go ahead.

**The Cross Keys**

In 1799 landlord Seth Skill was granted a licence for The Cross Keys in Stow.

Photograph c1925 – landlord William Addison



Photograph c1900 – landlord John Proctor

The longest serving resident landlord was 19<sup>th</sup> century Thomas Palmer, he was also keeper of Stow Manor Court House keys. The Manor Court house was situated on what is now the Cross Keys front car park. Palmer's story unfolds in Linda Crust's 'Stow Wars' published by Sturton & Stow History Society.



Thank you to all **litter pickers** in the village whether doing it independently or together – See below for the results of several people on 14<sup>th</sup> September.

“Lovely gettogether this afternoon of new and long term villagers - a bit of litter picking, tea, coffee, cake and lots & lots of chatting...”



**JOIN US**

**Sturton-by-Stow Wellbeing Walk**

Meets every 1st & 3rd Monday of the month at 11am

Sturton By Stow Village Hall, High Street, LN1 2AE

✓ indoor free and friendly chair walk  
✓ all year round and suitable for all abilities  
✓ refreshments free or paid for

For more info contact: T: 01522 544 652 / wellbeing@stourtonbystow.co.uk  
W: wellbeing@stourtonbystow.co.uk

**COMMUNITY CAFE**

Join us for a warm welcome, where you can enjoy a comforting cup of tea, and connect meaningfully with others in a relaxed and friendly setting for free.

**Mondays 11am to 2pm on March 21, April 14 and 28th, May 12 and 16, June 2 and 23, July 7 and 14, August 4 and 18, September 1, 15 and 29, October 13 and 27.**

Sturton by Stow Village Hall  
High Street  
Sturton by Stow  
LN1 2AX

For More Information  
Call Us 01427 872327

**STURTON BY STOW VILLAGE HALL**

**Table Top Sale & Coffee Morning**

**Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> October & 1<sup>st</sup> November**

**10am – 11.45am**

**Call in for a chat, cuppa and bacon roll. Look through the books, bric a brac etc from the table top sales.**

**Free entry & free cash prize draw – minimum £20.**

Books taking up too much space, bring them along on the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month, good quality paperback books always welcome.

Whether emptying your loft or garage, had a winter sort out, been busy crafting, selling for a charity, why not have a stall. No charge this month. To book a stall contact: johnleggett@btinternet.com or 07484 346094  
Facebook: Sturton-by-Stow Village Hall www.sturtonbystovillagehall.co.uk

Registered Charity No 512885



To join us please contact Secretary Maria Scott – 01427 787062, or just come to one of our meetings held in the Village Hall the second Tuesday in the month at 7:00 for 7:30pm. We also have a less formal coffee morning in the Cross Keys in Stow where a few of us meet on the first Friday of the month 10am till 12.

#### Macmillan -

'A very big thank you to everyone who helped to make the Macmillan fundraising event on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> Sept such a great success - a grand total of £1,452.76 will be handed over to Gainsborough and District Macmillan Cancer Support.

Thank you to those who donated raffle & tombola prizes, books and puzzles, made cakes, served refreshments, helped set up (shifting tables, blowing up balloons, putting out prizes), volunteered (or were coerced) to help on the day, hosted stalls in the church, and of course all of you who came and ate cake, drank tea & coffee, played the games, bought items and supported us with your generous donations. Also extra thank yous this year to Sturton Village Hall for the loan of their tables and to Rev Jane and the Churchwardens of St Mary's for hosting the Craft Fayre, book stall and Macmillan group in the church. David's help was invaluable! -Thank you all - from Hayley, Clare and Louise.'

#### A Thank You

'You may have noticed that some of the **village signs** are looking much brighter and more readable. A big thank you to one of our newer residents Steve Foster for his hard work cleaning them.'

#### WHAT'S ON IN OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER

##### OCTOBER

- 3<sup>rd</sup> WI coffee morning. 10-12 Cross Keys
- 4<sup>th</sup> Breakfast Club. Cross Keys. 9.30am
- 4<sup>th</sup> Sturton Table top sale and coffee morning 10-11.45
- 4<sup>th</sup> Sturton and Stow 137<sup>th</sup> Annual Agricultural and Horticultural Show 1.30pm Sturton by Stow School
- 6<sup>th</sup> Wellbeing walk 11-12 VH followed by café 12-2pm VH Sturton VH
- 6<sup>th</sup> WLDC consultation on Council Tax support for vulnerable and low-income households closes
- 14<sup>th</sup> WI 7pm VH
- 15<sup>th</sup> History Society. 7.30pm VH.
- 20<sup>th</sup> Wellbeing walk 11-12 VH followed by café 12-2
- 22<sup>nd</sup> Mobile Library 1-1.45pm Ingham Road

##### NOVEMBER

- 1<sup>st</sup> Breakfast Club. 9.30am Cross Keys.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Sturton table top sale and coffee morning 10-11.45. VH
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Wellbeing walk 11-12 VH followed by café 12-2
- 6<sup>th</sup> Stow Parish Council Meeting 7pm Cross Keys.
- 8<sup>th</sup> Bonfire, Sturton Recreation Ground. Details to follow.
- 7<sup>th</sup> WI coffee morning. 10-12 Cross Keys
- 11<sup>th</sup> WI 7pm VH
- 14<sup>th</sup> Last day for items for the next edition of the Bugle
- 17<sup>th</sup> Wellbeing walk 11-12 VH followed by café 12-2
- 19<sup>th</sup> Mobile library 1-1.45pm Ingham Road.
- 19<sup>th</sup> History Society 7.30pm VH

Date for the diary:

- 7<sup>th</sup> Dec FOSSA Christmas Market. Sturton Youth Club.



### Are you winter ready?

As we approach the Autumn and Winter months, Stow Parish Council would like to share some useful information with residents in the event of floods or power cuts.



**Be prepared to protect yourself, family, pets and property.**

- Prepare a flood kit including a torch, batteries, mobile phone, warm clothes, water, food and any prescription medicines you may need.
- Avoid walking, cycling or driving through flood water.
- Farmers should consider moving livestock and equipment away from areas likely to flood.
- Keep an eye on local water levels and weather conditions.

Visit the Environment Agency website [www.environment-agency.gov.uk](http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk) for river level and flooding information.

#### Useful Contacts

**In a life-threatening incident always call 999**

#### Floods:

[Sign up for flood warnings - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)

Or by phone: Floodline Telephone: 0345 988 1188  
Textphone: 0345 602 6340

- Report flooding of public drains, roads & groundwater to Lincolnshire County Council 01522 782082
- Report flooding from rivers to the Environment Agency incident hotline 0800 807060
- Contact Anglian Water to fix blocked sewers or burst water mains 03457 145 145

#### Power cuts:

- In the event of a power cut call Northern Grid by simply dialling 150
- Priority Services Membership
- if you might need extra support in a power cut due to personal or medical circumstances, join this scheme for free by calling 0800 169 2996



#### Council seeks views on how its car parks are managed and operated.

West Lindsey District Council has launched a consultation on its car parking strategy and is inviting residents to share their views on how the district's car parks are managed and operated.

The council owns and operates 10 pay and display car parks across the market towns of Gainsborough and Market Rasen. All council car parks are open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and are designated long-stay, with the exception of Roseway in Gainsborough, which is a short-stay facility. Parking is free after 6pm, on Sundays, and on Bank Holidays.

Feedback from the consultation will help shape the Council's Car Parking Strategy for 2025–2030, ensuring it reflects the needs and experiences of local residents, businesses, and visitors.

Pete Davy, Director of Finance and Assets at West Lindsey District Council said: "We want to hear from as many people as possible about how our car parks are used and what improvements or changes could be made. This strategy will guide how we manage car parking over the next five years, and residents' voices are vital in shaping it."

The consultation is now open, and residents are encouraged to take part by visiting our website: [Car Park Strategy Consultation 2025 | West Lindsey District Council](http://www.west-lindsey.gov.uk)

#### ENDS

For more information contact:  
Julie Heath Communications Manager  
01427 676502  
[Julie.heath@west-lindsey.gov.uk](mailto:Julie.heath@west-lindsey.gov.uk)



#### Help shape council tax support for vulnerable and low-income households.

West Lindsey District Council is inviting residents to take part in a consultation on its proposed Local Council Tax Support Scheme (LCTS) for 2026–27.

The Local Council Tax Support Scheme helps people on low incomes to pay their Council Tax.

It was introduced in April 2013 when Council Tax Benefit was abolished and replaced with locally agreed schemes. Customers who have reached state pension age are protected by national regulations set by central government, meaning they are not affected by any changes made to local schemes.

Every year, councils are required to review and approve a scheme for working-age residents for the following financial year. For 2026–27, West Lindsey District Council is proposing one change:

**The premiums and allowances used to calculate entitlement will be up-rated in line with the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) new figures from 1 April 2026.**

This update will ensure the scheme continues to support the most vulnerable and low-income households by using nationally recognised rates of DWP income, rather than keeping the 2025 figures currently in use. **The consultation opened on 26 August 2025 and runs until 9am on 6 October 2025.**

Pete Davy, Director of Finance and Assets at West Lindsey District Council said: "Our Local Council Tax Support Scheme is a vital lifeline for many households across West Lindsey. By aligning our premiums and allowances with the Department for Work and Pensions' national figures, we can ensure that support remains fair, up to date, and targeted at those who need it most. We encourage residents to take part in the consultation and share their views."

Residents can take part in the consultation by visiting our website: [Local Council Tax Support Scheme Consultation 2025 | West Lindsey District Council](http://www.west-lindsey.gov.uk)

#### ENDS

For more information contact: Julie Heath Communications Manager  
01427 676502, [Julie.heath@west-lindsey.gov.uk](mailto:Julie.heath@west-lindsey.gov.uk)



Following extensive research this directory was coproduced with input from service families, HIVEs and veterans' associations. It was, without exception, that people wanted a directory where they could find not only national information, but regional and local information where they could seek help, support and advice. We have now produced this simple but effective directory which lists a wide range of national, regional and local organisations providing support and advice to the Lincolnshire Armed Forces Community including: Physical & Mental Health, Finance, Benefits & Hardship, Children, Young People & Families, Employment & Training, Support & Social Groups, Housing & Homelessness.

### Armed Forces Community Directory

Paul\_Drury@n-kesteven.gov.uk for more  
[informationlincolnshire.connecttosupport.org/armed-forces-community-directory](http://informationlincolnshire.connecttosupport.org/armed-forces-community-directory)



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