

STICKFORD NEWSLETTER

Village News and Diary Dates

February - April 2024 Issue 102

Stickford Parish Council

First of all, a Happy New Year to you all even though we are now into February.

As you will have hopefully noticed, the new bus shelters and noticeboard are now in place. A thank you to Karl Sharpe of Sharpe Fabrications for a great job.

The Parish Council's next meeting is on **Tuesday 12th March**. We are organising a meeting with Lincolnshire Resilience, date will be advertised, to get a village emergency plan into place for the village. Once the plan is in place, we will need volunteers from the village to help when the time comes to need it. Following the floods in October it has highlighted a need for it. We are in the process of ordering sand bins and sand that will be placed at the end of Church Road where the recycle bins used to be.

We will be placing a reminder of Parish Council meetings on Next Door and the Facebook Stickford Community Page going forward.

We work closely with our ELDC and LCC Councillors and thanks goes to Cllr Terry Taylor for the grant for the sand bins and sand and Cllr Wendy Bowkett for ensuring Fen Road and the Cul De Sac now have a decent road surface to drive on. We are now pushing for more roads in the village to be resurfaced so please bear with us as we move forward. But in the meantime, the more residents that put problems on Fix my street, this helps our cause greatly if more people report the same problem.

If there is anything that you feel the Parish Council needs to be looking at or working on please let us know.

Finally, we still have vacancies for Co-opted councillors to come and join us. If you feel that getting involved in the day to day running of village life is for you, please come along to a meeting and we can have an informal chat to discuss.

Chairman

Lesley Reeson

Stickford Church

First of all, we would like to thank everyone who has helped at the church in any way in 2023 - by helping with refreshments, baking cakes, manning stalls, providing prizes, keeping the churchyard tidy, coming to events, using the bookshop and many more things.

It is through your support that the church in Stickford is alive and well and has become a hub of the community. Please continue to support your community church.

Christmas Tree Festival

This was held on 9th and 10th December in 2023 and was a lovely event. 15 trees were decorated by families and local businesses, all of them with a theme, which ranged from candy canes to kitchen utensils!

All the trees looked amazing, and many people came to see them over the weekend. Thanks go to those who took part, Glenn James, Holly Lodge Childcare, Studio Winford, Su Cooper, the Bishop family, Stickford Local History Group, Stickford Ladies Social Circle, Keals Club, Chris & Alan Holliday, the Lovelock Family, Jill Catchpole, Harris Engineering, Sarber Dog Training, Gail Lingard and Jude Schoburgh and Barbara Pearson, because without you there would have been no festival. This leads on to—

Christmas Carol Service and Party

The church was full of Christmas Trees, festooned with decorations and lights, so looked spectacular. There were over 90 people there, including two vicars who did an excellent service. The church was full, I have never seen so many there, which was wonderful to see the church being used by the whole community. At the end of the service someone said, “We need a bigger church!”.

The band, Minus 2, played straight after the service and the barbecue was ready, Thanks to Simon Coper and Lou Beasley for doing the cooking and thanks to Steeping Sausages for donating some sausages and sausage patties. Mulled wine, tea, coffee and mince pies were also served, thanks to Jude, Barbara and Stef.

Church Coffee Mornings are held in Stickford Community Centre every **Thursday from 10.30am to 12 noon**. Everyone is very welcome to come for a social get together and enjoy a cup of coffee or tea and a biscuit. There is no charge, we just ask for a donation if possible. It is for **all** ages.

We have a packed calendar of events planned this year including 9 Farmers Markets and regular Thursday morning coffee mornings.

If you would be willing to volunteer to help at any of these events, particularly by helping to serve refreshments, we would love to hear from you. Contact Cheryl on 01205 480477 or 07810445626 or email cherylsteele@tiscali.co.uk.

Church Bookshop

Thank you for your continued support for our bookshop. It's great that so many of you are buying books and then returning them for someone else to read. However, we have become a victim of our own success and unfortunately, we don't have the space to display all the books that are being donated and have had to give some away. Also, we cannot display books that are torn or hardbacked books that are missing their dustjackets; so please only donate books in good condition, from smoke free homes. There are also limits to the categories we can display, so we have had to choose the most popular. Our current categories are:

General Fiction	Action/Adventure Thrillers
Classics	Romance Based Fiction
Novels for Teens	War Fiction
Children's books	War – Nonfiction
Historical Fiction	

We continue to welcome books in good condition in those categories.

What can you do with other books – some of the charity shops will accept books – The Greyhound Shop in Spilsby for example. Also, there is a bookshop at Gunby Hall, you can drop books off with the carpark attendant – again please only books in good condition – but they can accept a wider range of categories than we can.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Dates for your diary:

Harvest Supper Monday 23rd September

Carol Service Saturday 15th December

Farmers Markets Saturday 17 February, Saturday 16 March, Saturday 20 April, Saturday 18 May, Saturday 15 June, Saturday 20 July, Saturday 17 August, Saturday 19 October, Saturday 16 November from 11am to 1pm

News from the Red Lion

Join us for live music at the Red Lion:

Saturday, 10th Feb - **Under the Covers** - Rock Covers with a twist

Saturday, 24th Feb - **The Dreambelles** - 60s/70s night - you've danced along to their ABBA tribute so why not join us for a night of classics!

FRIDAY, 1st March - Little Eagles - we are VERY excited to welcome this amazing Eagles Tribute to our pub. NOT TO BE MISSED!!

Saturday, 9th March - **Mollys Chamber** - old school rock, and the landlord's birthday!

Saturday, 23rd March - **Don't Look Down** - Motown, Pop and Classics from across the decades!

Saturday, 6th April - **A Bridge 2 Ska** - previously called Not Quite Geoff (with a member change) this band gives a brilliant night of ska music you won't want to miss!

Saturday, 20th April band TBC

Don't forget, we also have:

Bingo on Tuesdays with cash prizes.

Beer raffle every Friday at 6pm, £1 a ticket with the chance of winning £50 behind the bar!

Meat raffle every Sunday at 4pm, meat from East Coast Meats

Buy your raffle tickets on the day or in advance.

STICKFORD COMMUNITY CENTRE

Work begins on 4th March to replace the suspended ceiling in both rooms and upgrade the lighting to LED. It is hoped this will reduce the running costs of the Community Centre.

STICKFORD LADIES SOCIAL CIRCLE

Our next meeting is at 1:30pm on Monday 12th February in the Community Centre, Church Road, Stickford. This month members will be playing 'Would I Lie to You'. Visitors always welcome £2. We will be having our usual tea and cakes whilst everyone has a chance to chat!

The meeting in March is at 1:30pm on Monday 11th in the Community Centre, Church Road, Stickford. The speaker this month is Olivia Dexter who will talk about the services offered by St. Barnabas Hospice. Visitors always welcome £2. We will be having our usual tea and cakes whilst everyone has a chance to chat!

The meeting on Monday 8th April is at 1:30pm in the Community Centre, Church Road, Stickford. Annette Sharpe will talk about 'History Beneath our Feet'. Visitors always welcome £2. We will be having our usual tea and cakes whilst everyone has a chance to chat!

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KEALS CLUB

This club is for the over 55's for villages from surrounding villages. The club meets every 2nd Tuesday of the month, at 2pm until 4pm, in the Community Centre, Stickford.

At the meeting on Tuesday, 13th February the members will be having an auction – a good way to pass on unwanted Christmas presents! Visitors are always welcome.

The meeting in March is on Tuesday, 12th March. Adrian Isaac will talk about the Boston Woods Trust. Visitors are always welcome.

At the meeting on Tuesday, 16th April, Hannah Benson (Flowers) will demonstrate "Spring life to your door". Visitors are always welcome.

RELAX AND CRAFT

Do you like crafting? Or would you like to learn a new craft?

Well, we are a group of ladies that meet on the 3rd Wednesday of every month at Stickford Community Centre. We each bring along our own projects and light refreshments are provided. We plan around four different workshops a year for our members to take part in.

We are open from 9am - 3pm and you can come for as long as you want. There are no membership fees, you just pay £2 for the session you attend. Any questions please contact Ann on 07787 956889 or Sharon

on 07505 494355 or see our Facebook page

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/466223575643274>

Our upcoming dates are 21st February, 20th March and 17th April.

DEFIBRILLATORS

Both defibrillators are now in place, one outside the Red Lion, the other in Fen Road just up from the Memorial.

Last November there was a demonstration on the use of a defibrillator & CPR, in the Red Lion. Anne, the nurse who gave the demonstration, has kindly agreed to do another, this time in the Community Centre.

If we have enough villagers interested in another demonstration, this can be arranged. Please let me know and we can set a date.

Jennie 07966 139641

Evergreens Miniature Railway

Work continues at Evergreens despite the rather wetter-than-normal Autumn with extension to the track and lots of tidying up of the site ready for the new season.

Here's a brief run-down of this year's open days, more info about the themes for this year to follow or find us on Facebook or check out our website - contact details below.

These are all on Saturdays opening from about 10:30 till 4pm

March 30th Easter Saturday open day.

April 27th Open Day.

May 25th Open Day.

June 29th Open Day.

July 27th Open Day.

August 31st Open Day.

Sept 28th Open Day.

Oct 26th Open Day.

And of course, in December - our ever-popular Santa Special, date to be confirmed.

Dates are subject to change, and dependent on weather etc.

Even if you're not a great rail fan, but just fancy a pleasant couple of hours, then come along for a very reasonably priced tea or coffee and watch the trains running. We're also serving hot & cold snacks and ice creams too.

We're always on the lookout for volunteer helpers too. You don't have to be 'train mad' or an expert engineer, just interested in helping with a fascinating hobby.

If you happen to be passing on a Wednesday or Saturday, we are usually there working on the railway and

are always happy to welcome locals for a look around. Or if anyone would like to come along and see what goes on, then please feel free to contact us on our Facebook page [Facebook.com/evergreensminiaturerailway](https://www.facebook.com/evergreensminiaturerailway), on our web site www.evergreensminiaturerailway.org and we can arrange a look around the site and tell you more about what we do.

Stickford Relief in Need Charity/Educational Charity

Meeting dates for 2024 are:

28th February, 22nd May, 18th September and 13th November.

Stickford Educational Charity exists to make financial grants towards any educational objectives, including for equipment, books, courses, and experiences, for people of any age resident in the Parish of Stickford (including those normally resident there but attending university or college elsewhere) such grants to be means tested if the Trustees in their discretion so require. **The Trustees would welcome applications from such students.**

The Charity still provides a free, door to door bus service twice a month - to Boston on the second Wednesday and Horncastle on the fourth Thursday of the month, for those residents of Stickford without access to their own transport and those who can show a genuine need to use the service, even if they have their own transport as well. If you would be interested in using the bus service on this basis, please contact:

Pam Bryant, Beauport, Cul de Sac, Stickford - 01205 480410

Anyone resident in Stickford is eligible to use the service and we do need more users so if you would be interested, please get in touch with Pam.

Applications for any assistance from either Charity should be made in writing to the Clerk to the Trustees:

Mrs Katherine Bunting at The Old Vicarage, Church Road, Stickford, Boston, PE22 8EP or by email to katherine.bunting@chattertons.com.

Sunday 11th February	Holy Communion followed by tea, coffee and biscuits 11.15am Stickford Church
Monday 12th February	Stickford Ladies Social Circle - This month members will be playing 'Would I Lie to You'. Visitors always welcome £2. We will be having our usual tea and cakes whilst everyone has a chance to chat. 1.30 pm Stickford Community Centre
Tuesday 13th February	Keals Club - Auction 2 pm Stickford Community Centre Visitors welcome (£1)

Wednesday 14th February **Free Charity Bus to Boston.** Apply to Pam Bryant to book your place. See charity article earlier in newsletter.

Thursday 15th February **Stickford Local History Group** - "The Fen Chapels". A talk by Denise Wheatley. 7.30pm Stickford Community Centre.
£1 members £2.50 non-members. Everyone welcome.

FARMERS MARKET
Stickford Church, Saturday 17th February
11am to 1pm Stalls to be confirmed
To book a stall contact Cheryl on 07810445626 or
Nicki on 01205480869

Monday 19th February **Prize Bingo** 7.30pm Stickford Community Centre

Wednesday 21st February **Relax and Craft** Stickford Community Centre 9am to 3pm
Everyone welcome

JOINT COFFEE MORNING -
church and community centre
Stickford Community Centre

Thursday 22nd February
10.30 am to 12 noon
All ages welcome

Thursday 22nd February **Free Charity Bus to Horncastle.** Apply to Pam Bryant to book your place. See charity article earlier in newsletter.

Sunday 25th February **Morning Worship followed by tea, coffee and biscuits.**
11.15am Stickford Church

Monday 26th February **Prize Bingo** 7.30pm Stickford Community Centre

March

- Sunday 10th March **Holy Communion followed by tea, coffee and biscuits.**
11.15am Stickford Church
- Monday 11th March **Stickford Ladies Social Circle** The speaker this month is Olivia Dexter who will talk about the services offered by St. Barnabas Hospice.
Visitors always welcome £2. We will be having our usual tea and cakes whilst everyone has a chance to chat! 1.30pm Stickford Community Centre
- Tuesday 12th March **Keals Club** Adrian Isaac will talk about the Boston Woods Trust. Visitors are always welcome. 2pm Stickford Community Centre
- Tuesday 12th March **Parish Council Meeting** – Public open forum for 15 minutes at start of meeting. 7.30pm Stickford Community Centre.
- Wednesday 13th March **Free Charity Bus to Boston.** Apply to Pam Bryant to book your place. See charity article earlier in newsletter.

FARMERS MARKET

Stickford Church

Saturday 16th March

11am to 1pm

To book a stall contact Cheryl on 07810445626 or

Nicki on 01205480869

- Monday 18th March **Prize Bingo** 7.30pm Stickford Community Centre

Annual Parochial Church Meeting



Tuesday 19th March at 7pm

Stickford Community Centre

Everyone is welcome to attend

Please come and show your support for your village church

- Wednesday 20th March **Relax and Craft** Stickford Community Centre 9am to 3pm
Everyone welcome

Thursday 21st March **Stickford Local History Group - World War 1 History in a film can.**
A film and talk from Andrew Blow of Blow by Blow productions
7.30pm Stickford Community Centre £2.50 non-members £1 members
Everyone welcome

Sunday 24th March **Morning Worship, followed by tea, coffee and biscuits.**
11.15am Stickford Church

Church Easter Draw and Bingo

Stickford Community Centre

Monday 25th March at 7.30pm

Thursday 28th March **Free Charity Bus to Horncastle.** Apply to Pam Bryant to book your place. See charity article earlier in newsletter.

Sunday 31st March **EASTER SUNDAY**
10am Deanery Service at Spilsby Church.

April

EASTER FAMILY FUN AFTERNOON

Monday 1st April from 2pm to 4pm

Stickford Church

Lots of activities – easter egg hunt, making things, decorating eggs and more!

Everyone welcome to come and join in the fun.

Refreshments available

Monday 8th April **Stickford Ladies Social Circle** - Annette Sharpe will talk about 'History Beneath our Feet'. Visitors always welcome £2. We will be having our usual tea and cakes whilst everyone has a chance to chat!
1.30pm Stickford Community Centre

Wednesday 10th April **Free Charity Bus to Boston.** Apply to m Bryant to book your place. See charity article earlier in newsletter.

Sunday 14th April **Holy Communion** followed by tea, coffee and biscuits.
Stickford Church 11.15am

- Monday 15th April **Prize Bingo** 7.30pm Stickford Community Centre
- Tuesday 16th April **Keals Club** - Hannah Benson (Flowers) will demonstrate "Spring life to your door". 2pm Stickford Community Centre. Visitors welcome (£1)
- Wednesday 17th April **Relax and Craft** Stickford Community Centre 9am to 3pm
Everyone welcome
- Thursday 18th April **Stickford Local History Group** - AGM and illustrated talk, "The Home Guard in Lincolnshire", by Eric Grigg

7.30pm Stickford Community Centre £2.50 non-members £1 members
Everyone welcome

FARMERS MARKET

Stickford Church

Saturday 20th April 11am to 1pm

*To book a stall contact Cheryl on 01205480477 or
Nicki on 01205480869*

- Monday 22nd April **Prize Bingo** 7.30pm Stickford Community Centre
- Thursday 25th April **Free Charity Bus to Horncastle.** Apply to Pam Bryant to book your place. See charity article earlier in newsletter.
- Sunday 28th April **Morning Worship followed by tea, coffee and biscuits**

11.15am Stickford Church
- Monday 29th April **Prize Bingo** 7.30pm Stickford Community Centre

Mobile Library Service

The mobile library calls in the village every four weeks on the following dates:-

- Thursday 15th February
Thursday 14th March
Thursday 11th April

It calls at Hagnaby Road from 1.45pm until 2.15pm.

POST OFFICE VAN – at the Red Lion car park every Monday morning between 11.30am and 12.30pm.

FOOD BANK – thank you to everyone who supports the local food bank. Donations of foodstuffs/toiletries can be made in the church (open 10-4 every day). The donations are passed on to the food bank at the New Life Church in Spilsby. Food must be in date and not perishable goods. You can, of course, drop food in the collection points at Sainsbury's or the Co-op in Spilsby too.

TOMBOLAS AND RAFFLES – After a lull of a month, we are starting tombola season again with a vengeance! With a full summer programme, we welcome donations of toiletries, unwanted gifts, chocolate/biscuits, assorted general items – provided they are new, in good condition and in date where applicable. We will need 300 prizes for the Lincolnshire Aviation Centre tombolas alone, then we have a farmers' market every month starting in February as well as other ad hoc fund raisers. Prizes can be given to Cheryl Steele or Julie Bedford or left in the church – please just put a note on to say they are tombola prizes and leave them on the back pew, nearest the main door. Thank-you!



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email sthelenspictureframing@outlook.com



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