

# Contact us

## ESSENTIAL INFORMATION

To help us to help you, please use the most appropriate web address or phone number for the service you need.

Our Customer Service Centre can answer most of your direct-dial calls on weekdays (except public holidays) from 8am until 6pm. Please use the numbers below. For your convenience, Heritage Services, Libraries and Lifelong Learning are open seven days a week. If you're unsure which number to call, please phone 01522 552222 (weekdays only).

Full details are available at [www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/contactthecouncil](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/contactthecouncil)

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To leave feedback about the council's services please go to

[www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/feedback](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/feedback)

Visit the web version of County News at [www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/countynews](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/countynews)

### EMAIL

Contact us at [customer\\_services@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:customer_services@lincolnshire.gov.uk) (for social care, email [csc\\_socialcare@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:csc_socialcare@lincolnshire.gov.uk))

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- Adults – visit [www.mychoicemycare.org.uk](http://www.mychoicemycare.org.uk) or call 01522 782155
- Carers Team – visit [www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/carers](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/carers) or call 01522 782224
- Emergency out of office hours – call 01522 782333

### TRADING STANDARDS

for Citizens Advice Consumer Service

Visit [www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/tradingstandards](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/tradingstandards) or call 03454 040 506

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helping people aged 18 and above to live independently

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### TRANSLATION SERVICE

Available on the county council numbers listed and includes an interpreter if needed

### CONTACTING YOUR COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Visit [www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/localdemocracy](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/localdemocracy) or call 01522 782060

### DISTRICT COUNCILS

Contact your district council for council tax, housing benefit and waste collection queries. Please visit [www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/contactthecouncil](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/contactthecouncil)

### PARISH AND TOWN COUNCILS

To find your parish or town council, visit [www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/localdemocracy](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/localdemocracy) or call the Lincolnshire Association of Local Councils on 01673 866596/863417

# countynews

AUTUMN 2016



## KEEPING YOU SAFE

# countynews contents

autumn 2016



## Leader's welcome...

According to the Met Office, autumn runs from September to November, meaning it's already well underway.

To my mind, however, it really starts when the clocks go back at the end of October and the nights draw in even further.

Of course, autumn and the onset of winter bring the risk of severe weather, which is why our gritters are now on standby 24 hours a day through to April.

This year, as we explain in our roads feature on page 8, our fleet includes four massive vehicles known as "the Beast"! Equipped with hefty ploughs, they'll really help us to keep the roads clear, as well as being cheaper to lease and maintain than older models.

The feature also looks at major road projects in Lincolnshire – part of our ongoing commitment to investing in the county's future – as well as our sensible approach to street lighting.

Staying with the onset of colder weather, we have some practical advice, particularly for older residents, on staying warm and well this winter.

We also turn the spotlight in our centre spread on the care profession, finding out at first hand about the rewards involved in looking after others.

Turning to the younger generation, we explain how Lincolnshire is helping unaccompanied child asylum-seekers as they seek to overcome a traumatic start in life.

Then there's an update on the county's library service and the improvements already being seen by users since it was outsourced.

Elsewhere in this edition, we explore new countryside leaflets helping to make the great outdoors easier for everyone to enjoy.

We also examine what Brexit could mean for economic development in Lincolnshire, and how we're working to support prosperity and jobs.

Last but not least, I'd like to say a big thank-you to the 800-plus readers who took part in the County News survey, either through the magazine or online.

We had a great response, as we report on page 14, which will help us carry on improving the magazine for the future.

We'll be back in late December / early January with the Winter 2017 edition. Until then, best wishes to all our readers.

Mark of Hill.

Clr Martin Hill OBE  
Leader of Lincolnshire County Council

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## Contact information

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Firefighters Lisa Clarricoates and Mark Dungworth at Lincoln South Fire Station.

### MORE INFORMATION

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Sustainability: County News is printed on paper from responsible or well-managed sources. Please recycle the magazine when you have finished with it.



# The drive for devolution

## Greater Lincolnshire residents would welcome more local powers but are not convinced by the need for a mayor

In the last County News, we asked for your views about a proposed devolution agreement transferring powers and funding from the Government down to a local level.

It was put together by the 10 local authorities in the area, from the Humber to the Wash, plus the Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP). The initial proposal was for a "Mayoral Combined Authority" – a new board with a representative from each of the councils and the LEP.

There would also have been a mayor directly elected by residents, which the Government had said we must have to get all the new powers.

However, the survey results showed that many of you didn't support this idea, and we now intend to explore our options.

### Here's what you said

When the results from the County News survey were added to online responses, more than 4,400 of you had got involved.

**47% backed the idea of a Mayoral Combined Authority, while 49% opposed it.**

**59% felt that councils should pursue devolved powers for the Greater Lincolnshire area.**

**73% thought that councils should prioritise economic growth, infrastructure and housing.**

**77% wanted councils to pursue further funding – in addition to what's in the current deal – in these key areas.**

**Only 38% were keen on the possibility of combining the Police and Crime Commissioner role with that of an elected mayor, with 56% against.**

In each case, residents were asked whether they agreed or strongly agreed with a proposal, disagreed or strongly disagreed, or didn't know.

The full results and reports can be viewed at [www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/greaterlincs](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/greaterlincs).

### What happens next?

Lincolnshire County Council leader Clr Martin Hill OBE said: "Thank you to everyone who took part in the consultation and told us what they thought of the proposals.

"The results confirm what people often say as I go around the county – that they generally support what we're trying to achieve, asking for funding to enable more services to be run locally rather than from Whitehall.

"However, people obviously have very mixed views on an elected mayor, so we need to discuss with the Government what the options would be without one."

During September and October, each of the 10 councils will meet to consider its own response to the consultation findings.

### The bigger picture

Clr Hill said changes at a national level, particularly since Theresa May became Prime Minister, could make a difference.

"There might be more scope to get devolved powers without having an elected mayor. However, we need to know what that would mean for the deal we've already negotiated."

Clr Hill pledged: "Whatever happens with these ongoing discussions, we'll continue to press for the best deal and the most suitable arrangements for our area.

"In those discussions, your views will be uppermost in our minds, so thank you again to everyone who shared them with us."

# Lincolnshire news round-up

## Simply unmissable art

Some of the world's best contemporary portrait paintings are on display right here in Lincolnshire!

Artworks in the BP Portrait Award 2016 exhibition have been selected from 2,557 entries, by artists from 80 countries.

They've now arrived at the Usher Gallery in Lincoln, direct from the National Portrait Gallery, London.

The BP Portrait Award is the most prestigious portraiture competition in the world, with huge international appeal. Organised by the National Portrait Gallery, it's now in its 37th year and has launched the careers of many renowned artists.

Visitors to the Usher Gallery can admire a hugely varied exhibition, featuring everything from parents and poseurs to figurative nudes and famous faces.

The exhibition is on display until 13 November (daily, from 10am to 4pm). Adult tickets cost £5.

 For more information, visit [www.thecollectionmuseum.com](http://www.thecollectionmuseum.com) or phone 01522 782040.



▲ Laura In Black © Joshua LaRock

◀ Jean 2015 © Jean-Paul Tibbles

## The pride of Lincolnshire!

The wait is finally over for 57 local communities as we unveil the winners of the Best Kept Villages and Small Towns Competition.

With the judging completed, the winners in the different classes can now be revealed as Ingham, Barrowby, Holton le Clay and Holbeach, with Harlaxton, North Thoresby, Swineshead and Crowland as runners-up.

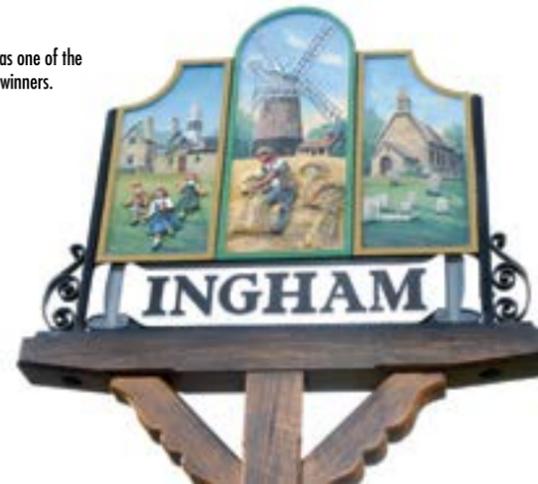
The battle of the champions – pitting past winners against each other – was won by Moulton, overcoming strong opposition from Allington.

The winners and runners-up will receive their certificates at a celebration evening at Grimsthorpe Castle, near Bourne.

The annual contest started in 1962 and is run by the Campaign to Protect Rural England. Tim Machin, acting chairman of CPRE Lincolnshire, said: "As always, our villages and towns have worked incredibly hard to ensure they looked their best. Congratulations to all of them – they really are the pride of Lincolnshire!"

 For more information, visit [www.facebook.com/cprelincolnshire](http://www.facebook.com/cprelincolnshire) or email [carina@missmoneypennypa.co.uk](mailto:carina@missmoneypennypa.co.uk).

Ingham was one of the four class winners.



## Praise for heritage venues

Five Lincolnshire County Council tourist attractions have won a top accolade following positive visitor feedback.

Lincoln Castle, Gainsborough Old Hall, The Collection, the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight Visitor Centre and the Museum of Lincolnshire Life all achieved the TripAdvisor Certificate of Excellence.

It's based on the quality and quantity of reviews submitted by users of the website over a year. To qualify, a business must maintain an overall rating of at least four out of five.

Cllr Nick Worth, executive member for culture and heritage, said: "All our attractions are rated 4.5 on TripAdvisor, which is something to be truly proud of.

"It's great to have such positive and independent feedback from our visitors. It's well-deserved recognition for our staff and volunteers, who work so hard to help people enjoy our award-winning attractions."

Heather Leisman, vice-president of industry marketing at TripAdvisor, said: "With the Certificate of Excellence, TripAdvisor honours businesses that have consistently received strong praise and ratings."



The Collection

Gainsborough Old Hall



## Long live the King's Head!

A much-loved Lincolnshire building at risk of dereliction is being given a new lease of life.

The Old King's Head in Kirton, which dates from 1599, is Grade II-listed and has a rich history. However, it's currently standing vacant and in urgent need of repairs.

Now a Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) grant of more than £2m will allow the building to be restored and brought back into use.

The money has enabled local charity Heritage Lincolnshire to buy the property, which will be repaired, refurbished and revived as an artisan café and boutique B&B.

Heritage Lincolnshire also plans, with the help of volunteers, to explore how the building developed over the centuries. A community archaeological dig could also take place.

In addition to the HLF, the project has received support from the Pilgrim Trust and Boston Borough Council.

 For more information about Heritage Lincolnshire, established as a charity in 1991, visit [www.heritagelincolnshire.org](http://www.heritagelincolnshire.org).



## Could you adopt?

Lincolnshire Adoption Service is not currently recruiting adopters of single children aged four and below. However, there's still a great need for adopters to provide a family for:

- Children aged four and over.
- Larger groups of brothers and sisters who need to be kept together.
- Children with disabilities and additional needs.
- Children placed under the Foster to Adopt scheme.

Foster to Adopt is an arrangement whereby adopters are also approved as foster carers. That can really help children in local authority care who are likely to be adopted.

To begin with, the child can be temporarily fostered. If the court later decides they should be adopted, they can then stay with the same family permanently.

Foster to Adopt carers need to be emotionally strong and able to put the needs of very vulnerable children first in an uncertain situation.

 If you feel you could offer a loving and secure home to any of these groups of children, please call 01522 554114 or visit [www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/adoption](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/adoption).

## Advice on health and care

A new directory is available to help people get vital health and care information.

The free publication has been produced by Healthwatch Lincolnshire, the independent watchdog for the county. It lists all the local GP practices, dentists, pharmacies, opticians, nursing and care homes, and residential and domiciliary care providers.

The directory also includes advice on issues such as staying fit, minor ailments, choosing the right kind of care, and patient rights.

Julie Evans, from Healthwatch Lincolnshire, said: "We're often approached by patients who struggle to find the information they need, so we've tried to answer many of their questions in a single booklet."

The directory is available free of charge from local health and care venues, including your GP practice.

 For more information, visit [www.healthwatchlincolnshire.co.uk](http://www.healthwatchlincolnshire.co.uk) or call 01205 820892.



## Going to school for the first time

Was your child born between 1 September 2012 and 31 August 2013? If so, they can start school from 5 September 2017.

Before then, you'll need to apply for a place, which you can do from 14 November 2016 until the deadline of 15 January 2017.

There are two ways of applying, either:

- Online at [www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/schooladmissions).
- By phone on 01522 782030.

There's more information about Lincolnshire schools and the admissions process on the website. Schools may also provide their own brochures.

 For further advice, email [schooladmissions@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:schooladmissions@lincolnshire.gov.uk) or ask your local primary school headteacher.



## Poppy pulling power

An extraordinary 533,000 visitors flocked to see an iconic poppy sculpture during its three-month summer stint at Lincoln Castle.

The venue was chosen as one of only four UK venues to host *Wave* – by artist Paul Cummins and designer Tom Piper – in 2016. The sculpture was originally part of an installation first seen at HM Tower of London in 2014.

*Wave* has been touring the country as part of 14-18 NOW, the arts programme marking the centenary of the First World War.

The recent influx of visitors has reinforced Lincoln Castle's status as a world-class attraction

following its £22m refurbishment in 2014. The venue is home to one of only four surviving copies of Magna Carta. Its 800th anniversary last year generated worldwide public interest.

In all, about one million visitors have come to the attraction since it reopened in April 2015, giving a major boost to the local economy.

Looking ahead, the castle will be celebrating the 800th anniversary of the Charter of the Forest – another hugely important historic document – in 2017.

**i** For castle opening times, admission charges and events, please visit [www.lincolncastle.com](http://www.lincolncastle.com).

## Ready for flooding?

Flooding is more likely over the winter months, so it's best to be prepared.

The best place to start is online at [www.gov.uk/prepare-for-a-flood](http://www.gov.uk/prepare-for-a-flood), which will advise you how to:

- Find out if you're at risk.
- Make a flood plan.
- Improve your property's flood resilience.
- Get insurance.
- Obtain help during a flood.
- Get help after a flood.

The website also enables you to sign up for free flood warnings by phone, email or text.

If you prefer, you can call Floodline, which is available 24 hours a day on 0345 988 1188.

Advice on preparing for emergencies is also available from Lincolnshire's Resilience Forum at [www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/lincolnshire-prepared](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/lincolnshire-prepared).

One sensible step is to put together a simple flood plan, which could save you vital time in an emergency.

**i** If flooding does happen, you can report it on 01522 782082. In an emergency, call 101 or (if there is threat to life) 999.



## We asked, you said...

Public feedback has helped Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue reshape plans for the future.

The service undertook an 11-week consultation on initial proposals earlier this year, attracting more than 300 responses.

Cllr Nick Worth, executive member for emergency services, said: "We're very grateful to everyone who shared their views. The replies helped us meet savings targets while minimising the impact on services."

"By working closely with the Fire Brigades Union, we also found an efficient solution which should allow us to make these changes."

Following the consultation, Lincoln South Fire Station will continue to be crewed 24 hours a day, rather than having just on-call night cover.

The Joint Ambulance Conveyance Project, which sees firefighters using their own ambulances in medical emergencies, will also be extended.

In terms of rescue provision, two specialist support units will be maintained, while a high-level ladder platform is to be relocated to Boston.

**i** For more details – including future service priorities – visit [www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/lfr](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/lfr).



## Stub it out in Stoptober

Smokers ready to kick the habit can get the support they need during this year's Stoptober Challenge.

Nationwide, smokers are being encouraged to quit for the whole of October, because if you can stop for 28 days, you are five times more likely to give up for good.

In Lincolnshire, **Quit 51** provide a range of support for people wanting to stop, including:

- A 12-week programme of support with a stop-smoking advisor.
- Clinics in pharmacies, GP surgeries and other venues.
- A telephone service for those unable to attend face-to-face appointments.
- Exploring your smoking habits, previous attempts to stop, and advice on the medications available.

For help to quit smoking this Stoptober, call Quit 51 free on 0800 622 6968. You can also text "smokefree" to 66777 and they will call you back, or email [contact.quit51@nhs.net](mailto:contact.quit51@nhs.net).



## Playing our part

Lincolnshire is leading the way in the East Midlands in looking after unaccompanied child refugees

Vulnerable young asylum-seekers are benefiting from support in Lincolnshire as they try to overcome a traumatic start in life.

All local authorities in England and Wales have a legal duty to help unaccompanied children and young people arriving here.

In Lincolnshire, the county council is currently supporting 65 – and that number could grow as the Government resettles another 600 around the country.

Across the East Midlands, Lincolnshire is one of two councils leading the way in terms of the number looked after.

Executive councillor for children's services Cllr Mrs Patricia Bradwell said: "We're happy to do our bit to give these children the support they deserve."

"However, there has to be a fair, regionally managed allocation, and we're working hard with other East Midlands councils to ensure we all play our part."

Cllr Bradwell added: "Although the Government gives us financial support for each child, it also has to recognise that Lincolnshire is doing much more at the moment than some other authorities."

An unaccompanied asylum-seeking child has to be under 18, with no relative or guardian to turn to in this country.

If they have no papers to identify them, an assessment is carried out to determine their general well-being and give an indication of their age.

Yvonne Shearwood, from children's services, said: "Lincolnshire is a through-route from many ports on the coast, and if police become aware of children within our border we, as a local authority, have a duty of care."

"Many of the children have experienced high levels of trauma. Trained workers carry out assessments to get the most complete picture, so we can give these children the care they need."

The assessed age of a child decides the services provided, with under-16s being fostered.

Those aged between 16 and 18 are placed in semi-independent accommodation, and receive a small allowance with a deduction for rent and bills. They are also supported and encouraged to attend college.

As with all children who are looked after, services are offered to these young people until they reach 25, if needed.

Yvonne added: "We currently care for unaccompanied asylum-seeking children from several countries, particularly Afghanistan, Iran, Iraq, Sudan

and Eritrea. It's been noticeable that numbers have increased in recent years as a direct result of the civil war in Syria."

"It's extremely rewarding to see many of these young people overcome traumatic experiences and make a real success of their lives at college and beyond. That will always be our goal."

**"It's extremely rewarding to see many of these young people overcome traumatic experiences and make a real success of their lives"**

# Getting you from A to B

Winter gritting, street lighting and road-building projects all help you travel around Lincolnshire safely and without unnecessary delay



TAMING "THE BEAST": Cllr Richard Davies.

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## Unleashing "the Beast"!

As winter and the threat of snow approach, the council is ensuring it's prepared for the worst.

This year, our 43-strong fleet of gritters includes four of the biggest and most advanced snow-clearing vehicles in the country – dubbed "the Beast". Equipped with hefty ploughs, they can spread salt more uniformly and clear snow more effectively than older models.

They are also cheaper to lease and maintain, saving about £166,000 over the next decade.

Executive member for highways Cllr Richard Davies said: "Keeping the county's roads safe during winter is a priority for us.

"Last year, we invested in a new salt barn, and this year we're bringing in new gritters at the forefront of snow-clearing technology.

"We're committed to keeping major roads clear for those who use them."

The gritters are on call 24 hours a day between October and April and treat every A and B road in Lincolnshire when temperatures drop – that's nearly 2,000 miles of road, at a cost of up to £30,000 per run.

The council has stockpiled over 35,000 tonnes of salt, which should be enough to see the county through the winter months.

**i** For information about gritting and other winter road issues, visit [www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/winterweather](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/winterweather).

### Can you help?

Retired LGV drivers are being sought to help keep the roads clear. Anyone with a current Class C LGV licence and Driver Qualification Card can apply – visit [www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/snowclearing](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/snowclearing) or call 01522 782070.

## Lighting the way



### Changes to street lighting in the Lincoln, Gainsborough, Market Rasen and Louth areas are already proving their worth.

We're now six months into the year-long Street Lighting Transformation project, which will save £1.7m a year and reduce CO<sub>2</sub> by 6,000 tonnes from April 2017. It will include replacing 17,000 street lights across the county with more efficient and cheaper-to-run LED versions.

Like other authorities across the UK, the council is also changing 38,000

lights to part-night timing, mainly in residential areas. These lights will switch on at dusk and remain on until around midnight. They will then turn off, before coming back on from 6am until dawn.

Around 3,000 lights on roads away from residential areas could also be turned off completely, contributing towards the big savings.

Cllr Davies said: "We're committed to providing lighting where it's most needed, but a one-size-fits-all approach is no longer affordable.

"We've carefully considered the impact before making changes, and over 40% of our 68,000 street lights will stay on throughout the night. However, in some cases part-night lighting, or turning off altogether, is the most appropriate solution to ensure the best use of taxpayers' money."

Cllr Davies added that there have always been significant areas of the county's highway network with no street lighting at all.

The new approach will ensure lighting is provided when it's most needed, while still achieving the required savings. At the same time, we're doing everything we can to protect the safety of road users and minimise inconvenience to residents."

In particular, lighting will not be switched off on main roads near junctions or roundabouts, near zebra crossings or speed humps, outside nursing homes or in areas with a record of significant night-time crime.

Between now and Christmas, the project will be extended across the south of the county followed by coastal towns, plus the Horncastle area, in the New Year.

**i** For information on the Street Lighting Transformation project, visit [www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/streetlighting](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/streetlighting).

## Investing for the future

### Increased budget cuts have not stopped the council from delivering some impressive highways projects.

This year alone, the council has completed the East West Link Road through Lincoln and the first phase of the Grantham Southern Relief Road (pictured).

We've also obtained the legal orders required for the Lincoln Eastern Bypass and planning permission for improvements to Peppermint Junction in Holbeach.

For the future, the council will be unable to fund new roads and major improvements from existing reserves. We're therefore seeking alternative funding from sources such as housing developers and government grants.

**i** For information on current and planned major projects visit [www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/transport-and-roads/roadworks-and-improvement-schemes](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/transport-and-roads/roadworks-and-improvement-schemes).



## From start to finish

Work is now underway on the Lincoln Eastern Bypass, 10 years after planning started. But why does it take a decade to build a big new road?

### PHASE 1

Officers initially consider route options and their implications before consulting with residents, businesses and other interested parties. This can take up to **18 months**.

### PHASE 2

Once a preferred route has been decided, it can take up to **three years** to secure funding and obtain planning permission and legal orders. A public inquiry is sometimes needed.

### PHASE 3

Now that we have the funding and can legally build the road, we have to create a detailed design and prepare tender documents, which can take around **18 months**.

### PHASE 4

We then appoint a contractor through a lengthy tender process which can take up to **a year**.

### PHASE 5

We can now build the road. This can take, on average, anywhere from **18 months to three years** – or even longer for bigger roads.



# Rainy Days ARE RUBBISH!



When the winter weather means you're stuck indoors with the kids, why not get crafty and creative making things ready for Christmas?



"Every month, local people put over 5,000 tonnes of items into their recycling bins. Sometimes, however, things get put in the recycling by mistake, such as food waste, clothes and crisp packets. These should all go in your normal rubbish or – as a fun alternative – some of them may be great for making new things with youngsters."

Cllr Reg Shore, executive councillor for recycling and waste

## DIY BAG FOR LIFE

Takes: 15 mins Cost: Free

Customise an old t-shirt into a stylish bag

- 1 Take a large t-shirt and cut 3" slits upwards from the hem at 1" intervals.
- 2 To make the bottom, tie each front tassel to the corresponding one on the back. To ensure it's tight, do this twice.
- 3 To create the handles and opening, cut off the sleeves and extend both the armhole and neckline. The further you extend them, the longer the handles.



## CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS

Takes: 15 mins Cost: Free

Turn crisp packets into fabulous shiny Christmas decorations like paper chains or snowflakes.

- 1 Open out the crisp packets and wipe with a cloth. Iron them flat on a low heat with a piece of baking paper covering the packet.
- 2 Create circles by drawing round a plate or bowl. Cut these out.
- 3 Fold each circle in half three or four times so it looks like a cone. Snip triangles into the edges. Remember: don't cut all the way from edge to edge.
- 4 Unfold and iron it flat again under baking paper.



### WHAT CAN I PUT IN MY RECYCLING?

- ✓ Cardboard and paper
- ✓ Aerosols
- ✓ Plastic bottles, pots and trays
- ✓ Glass bottles and jars (except East Lindsey)
- ✓ Aluminium and steel tins

### OTHER WAYS TO RECYCLE

- \* Take toys, furniture and all electrical goods to your nearest Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC)
- \* H&M and M&S have schemes where you can get vouchers in exchange for old clothes
- \* Batteries and engine oil can also be disposed of at your local HWRC

### TUNE IN

Other excellent ideas on upcycling and activities with the kids are at [www.molliemakes.com](http://www.molliemakes.com)

Join in and share your creations on facebook @ [lincolnshirecc](https://www.facebook.com/lincolnshirecc)



WHERE YOU CAN, WASH AND SQUASH! AND IF IN DOUBT, LEAVE IT OUT!

# Better than ever!

Improved buildings, new facilities, more activities and better books – have you been to a Lincolnshire library recently?

It's only been six months since Greenwich Leisure Limited (GLL) started running the county's library service for the council. But already things have started changing for the better – and there's more to come!

At Lincoln Central Library, a new outdoor reading garden proved a real summer hit, while the usual calm of the library was replaced by live music in the evenings.

As we move into autumn, jamming sessions will be hitting the "Write Note" on 22 October and 26 November, from 11.30am to 2.30pm.

For younger visitors, GLL is revamping the children's library, and even installing a castle! A new teenage zone is also being created, complete with a reading cube, games zone and study area.

Elsewhere across the county, Boston Library now boasts a new-look children's library, plus improved computer facilities for online users.

In Skegness, the exterior of the library has been given a welcome facelift, while Sleaford, Gainsborough and Stamford are being improved both inside and out.

In addition, Stamford is getting an exciting new children's library – watch this space for more news!

Of course, books are the cornerstone of any library, and GLL has been comparing what's on the shelves with what customers really want to borrow.

In Mablethorpe, for example, the selection of books on display will be tailored much more closely to local demand.

More generally, all 15 of the county's main libraries will be getting more of the latest bestsellers and crime novels, hot off the press.

Teen readers can look forward to extra graphic novels and manga, and the selection of e-books, e-audio and e-magazines is being enhanced.

At all Lincolnshire libraries, GLL – a charitable social enterprise – is aiming to ensure there really is something for everyone.

GLL head of libraries Diana Edmonds MBE explains: "We want our centres to be vibrant places to visit, providing a better service than ever before."

"From messy mornings for little ones to mindfulness sessions for adults and digital drops-ins, we're planning a range of new activities to complement our wide selection of books and resources."

"We're also keen to hold author events all across Lincolnshire, and would be delighted to hear from local writers interested in hosting book signings or talks in our libraries."

Diana adds: "On top of all the changes coming your way, there's going to be even more time for you to enjoy them."

"In the months ahead, we'll be extending and improving our opening times, so libraries are open when you want them."

In addition to running Lincolnshire's 15 main facilities, GLL – the largest provider of library and leisure services in the country – supports more than 30 local community hubs.

For all the latest developments, visit [www.better.org.uk/lincolnshire](http://www.better.org.uk/lincolnshire).



TWO'S MORE FUN! Little Eliza Chambers and a friend enjoy the revamped children's area at Lincoln Central Library.

# Inspiring care workers

Nearly 20,000 people in Lincolnshire enjoy the rewards of working in the care sector – could you join them?

**“I’ve never looked back since becoming a care worker. I honestly enjoy everything about the job!”**

That’s the upbeat view of **MICHAELA WILKINSON**, who took the plunge and changed career in middle age.

Michaela, 50, spent many years in retail when she was younger but gradually grew tired of it. “I knew I wanted to carry on working with people, but I was ready for a new challenge,” she recalls.

Eight years ago, Michaela joined the care sector and now works for a provider in Skegness.

She supports residents in their own homes, including older people and those with disabilities, as well as their families.

“Sometimes the early mornings are tiring, but it means a lot to know I’m helping give someone that little bit of extra independence so they can stay at home.”

As a senior care worker, Michaela mentors new carers as part of “a really supportive environment”.

“When a new worker starts, they come

out with me and shadow my rounds so they can learn and ask questions,” she says.

“Then, when they have more confidence, we still go out together, but I let them lead on the calls. Once they’re ready, they get their own clients.

“But it’s still not like they’re on their own, and we meet colleagues regularly for group discussions, which are really useful for sharing experiences.”

**ADAM DICKENS**, 33, works for the same company, having previously been a volunteer at a care home.

“My mum has worked in care, and some of my family members have care at home themselves, so it felt like the right time to pursue it myself.”

He became a care worker in January and says he was supported straight away in his new job.

“I went out with Michaela and was trusted to carry out tasks quite early on, but with her there to help me if I needed it. I’m definitely hoping to stay in care in the future, and have already been promoted to team leader.

“That means I now get to work closely with the council on care plans for people, as well as still doing the face-to-face care that I know makes a difference.”

**“By keeping people safe, happy and out of hospital, care workers play a vital role for the individuals they care for, as well as helping reduce pressure on services like the NHS”**

## Could you be a care worker?

**Carers support people and their families at home and in residential care, improving the quality of life for thousands across Lincolnshire.**

Cllr Mrs Patricia Bradwell, executive councillor for adult care, says: “We don’t always hear about the daily achievements of this hardworking, compassionate and irreplaceable workforce.

“By keeping people safe, happy and out of hospital, care workers play a vital role for the individuals they care for, as well as helping reduce pressure on services like the NHS.”

The council has been working with Lincolnshire Care Association (LinCA) to support care workers.

The aim is to help people grow in their careers and encourage others to see caring as a career option.

Schemes across Lincolnshire already promote training, mentoring and development for those in the care sector. And the county will need more dedicated professionals in the future as the population ages and grows.

Cllr Bradwell says: “We want to keep the best care workers in the sector and to encourage more people to consider it when choosing a career.

“It can be a great job, and there are plenty of routes for career development. For example, excellent community care officers, nurses and social workers often started as carers, giving them a strong grounding to pursue professional qualifications later.”

If you think you’ve got what it takes, or want to know more about a career in care, visit [www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/jobs](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/jobs).

**“I’ve never looked back since becoming a care worker. I honestly enjoy everything about the job!”**

**COMPASSIONATE: Michaela Wilkinson and Adam Dickens care for 83-year-old Rose Copson (centre) at her Skegness home.**



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# Your views on County News

Thank you to all the readers who took part in our magazine survey – this is what you told us!

More than 800 residents participated – either by post or online – giving us a real insight into your views.

The magazine received a vote of confidence from a clear majority of people who replied, with 94% saying they generally read it. The other key results were:

**94%** felt the design of County News was attractive.

**97%** thought the articles were easy to understand.

**87%** said the publication made them feel better informed about our services.

Council leader Cllr Martin Hill said: "Good communication with residents is really important to us, which is why we conducted a survey.

"The results show that many people find County News a valued source of information and want to carry on receiving it. However, we're always seeking to improve and will be looking closely at all your comments, including those from residents less keen on the magazine."

As regards the online County News, it emerged that 92% of respondents had never visited [www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/countynews](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/countynews).

Many residents didn't have computer access or preferred to read a paper version, while others simply weren't aware the magazine is on our website.

For those who do like information digitally, we're working hard to improve the online County News and raise awareness of it.

We'd also like to hear from readers happy to get the magazine by email. It only takes a moment to subscribe at the website – and hundreds already have.

Cllr Hill said: "We keep County News under constant review, and it makes sense to start putting together a list of email addresses. However,

any changes are still some way in the future, and everyone will continue to have a paper copy delivered until then."

## What County News costs

Readers understandably asked about the cost of County News in these difficult financial times.

We currently distribute the magazine every three months to all Lincolnshire's 345,000 homes and businesses.

Each copy costs 15p to produce, print and deliver to your door – less than a quarter of the cost of a first-class stamp (64p).

## Why we produce it

The aim of County News is to keep you informed about the many services the council provides, either directly or indirectly.

That's particularly important for vulnerable residents – including older people or those on low incomes – who may not have computer access.

We also use the magazine to find out your views – for example, on important issues like the council's spending and local devolution.

## Other ways to keep in touch

Besides County News, the council has an easy-to-use website at [www.lincolnshire.gov.uk](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk).

You can also like us at [www.facebook.com/LincolnshireCC](https://www.facebook.com/LincolnshireCC) or follow us on Twitter @LincolnshireCC.

For email, phone calls and post, please get in touch with our Customer Service Centre – all the contact details are on the back page.

## OUR LUCKY WINNER

Everyone who entered the County News survey was entered into a prize draw for a £50 High Street shopping voucher. Congratulations to Gillian Spencer, from Gainsborough, whose name was first out of the hat.

# Speaking up for others

Cllr Daniel McNally is committed to ensuring local people's concerns are heard on Lincolnshire County Council

"I've always been interested in helping the local community, so it was a privilege to be elected in 2013 onto the county council, where I knew I had the chance to influence local decision-making.

Serving my local community is something I'm really proud of, and I'm passionate about making it the best possible place for people to live and work.

I found it such an interesting experience that, in 2015, I decided to stand for election to East Lindsey District Council and North Somercotes Parish Council.

I've lived and worked for most of my life in North Somercotes, where I run the family business, and have built up good relationships with local people and communities. As a result, I've been able to gain an in-depth knowledge of people's concerns and aspirations, which has helped me when making important decisions on their behalf.

My county council division covers a huge area incorporating 11 parish councils, all of which I regularly attend.

Parish councils are the grassroots of local government and I have

great respect for their work. They always treat me as one of their own, which allows me the opportunity to fully take part in their discussions.

I can also ensure their voice is heard at a county level, where I always have the interests of local people uppermost in my mind.

Most of my work as an elected member comes from dealing with queries and issues from my constituents, both on the phone and in person. While much of it may seem relatively small, such as potholes in the road, I know these kinds of things really matter so I do my best to get them resolved.

Being on the Economic Scrutiny Committee has given me an insight into the bigger picture of how different parts of Lincolnshire are interconnected.

I'm currently working on promoting industry, tourism and the wider rural economy along the east coast. Lincolnshire has some fantastic assets and visitor attractions – the Donna Nook seal colony is a particular favourite.

In my spare time, I enjoy restoring classic cars and cycling, and am currently training for my next London to Brighton charity bike ride.



Cllr Daniel McNally, pictured at Donna Nook, is the UK Independence Party councillor for the Louth Marsh division on Lincolnshire County Council.

He is vice-chairman of the Planning and Regulation Committee and a member of the Economic Scrutiny Committee and the Definitive Map and Statement of Public Rights of Way Sub-Committee.

He also attends the Mid-Lincolnshire Local Access Forum and the joint meeting of the Mid-Lincolnshire and South Lincolnshire & Rutland Local Access Forums.

To contact Cllr McNally, phone 07810 304434 or email [cllrd.mcnelly@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:cllrd.mcnelly@lincolnshire.gov.uk).

# LINCOLNSHIRE FOOD & GIFT AT THE SHOWGROUND

Get that  
Festive Feeling

26-27 November, 9AM-4PM

With over 150 exciting and varied exhibitors, entertainment from live choir groups, cookery demonstrations from top local chefs and hands-on craft workshops, the Lincolnshire Food & Gift Fair promises Christmas treats and festive inspiration for all of the family.

TICKETS

£5 in advance £6 on the gate

Under 16's go free with a paying adult. Ample free car parking.



LINCOLNSHIRE  
SHOWGROUND

www.lincolnshireshowground.co.uk

Telephone : 01522 522900

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#FoodandGift16



## Could Brexit mean business opportunity?

The UK has decided to leave the European Union – but what does that mean for Lincolnshire?

Cllrs Colin Davie (right) and Stuart Tweedale (left) with members of the Hunan delegation at Siemens in Lincoln.

As you'd expect, the council was preparing for a possible Brexit vote well in advance of the referendum in June.

Following the historic decision, work is now being stepped up to meet the challenges – and take advantage of the opportunities – that lie ahead.

Cllr Colin Davie, executive member for economic development, said: "One of the most obvious things to be affected is EU grants for economic development. Over the last 20 years, Lincolnshire has had tens of millions of pounds, which have helped fund the refurbishment of Boston Market Place, the Teal Park development in Lincoln and much more.

"For the six years up to 2020, we've provisionally been allocated about £130m. There's some uncertainty following the referendum, but we're likely to continue receiving money as long as the UK is paying in."

So what does that mean in practice for current and new applications?

Cllr Davie explained: "The Government has said it will guarantee funding for any projects signed off by late autumn, securing us up to £50m. It's also putting arrangements in place to consider applications that come in after that time."

Looking to the future, Cllr Davie is optimistic that both the country and the county can fulfil their potential in global markets.

"In the long term, European funding won't be available to us, but the UK also won't be contributing to the EU budget anymore. That means the Government will have extra millions to spend, and my immediate priority is

making sure Lincolnshire gets its fair share.

"Brexit also provides the perfect opportunity for the UK and Lincolnshire to increase their global presence. To that end, the council and its partners are working hard to establish new relationships with other countries, bringing new opportunities for our businesses."

A key trading partner for Lincolnshire in the years ahead could be China – one of the largest and most important export markets in the world.

Cllr Davie said: "Recently, we signed a declaration of friendship and economic co-operation with Hunan, a booming Chinese province.

"Hunan's economy is worth more than £200bn per year, and although traditionally a rice and cotton-growing area, it's been developing its machinery, steel, food processing and electronics.

"Some of the sectors earmarked for future collaboration are agriculture, engineering, adult social care, culture and education.

"We're also working to establish a similar relationship with Pinellas County in Florida, USA."

Describing himself as "optimistic" about the future, Cllr Davie said: "Lincolnshire has some world-class businesses. With the right support and freedom from EU bureaucracy, they can ensure our county thrives in the decades ahead."

If you're a Lincolnshire business looking for support, visit [www.businesslincolnshire.com](http://www.businesslincolnshire.com).

"Brexit provides the perfect opportunity for the UK and Lincolnshire to increase their global presence"



PEACE OF MIND: Kath Soltys, 78, with Max Tunmore from Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue.

“ Priority is given to residents most at risk from fire, although all Lincolnshire residents can get a free DIY assessment pack ”

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## Keeping loved ones safe

As family members get older, a home fire safety check can give extra peace of mind

A Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue home fire safety check is totally free – all it costs is your time to ask for one.

During the visit, an officer will suggest steps to make your loved one's home safer and protect them from the risk of fire.

They will also provide an escape plan to follow, just in case the unthinkable should happen.

The fire safety specialists can even see if there are any health and care needs that local services may be able to help with.

Practical measures could include installing a personal home alarm system or a hard-of-hearing alarm, amongst others.

Priority is given to residents most at risk from fire, although all Lincolnshire residents can get a free DIY assessment pack. In addition to arranging a home safety check, it's sensible to:

- Get smoke and carbon monoxide alarms fitted and tested.
- Have a cordless phone or mobile in the bedroom.
- Keep glasses, hearing aids and walking sticks by the bed.
- Ensure stairways and doorways are free of clutter.
- Close all doors at night-time.

**i** For more information about a home safety check, or to make a referral for someone else, please phone 01476 565441 or email [hpsc@lincoln.fire-uk.org](mailto:hpsc@lincoln.fire-uk.org).

### Taking care of gran

Michaela Soltys, 25, from Billingham, said: “My mum and I regularly pop round to my granny's to help – we clean her house, take meals, test her smoke alarm, do her shopping and make sure she's going to appointments.

“As she's getting older and more forgetful, we also need to start making changes to help her live independently as long as she can.

“By contacting the fire service and organising a home safety check, I can help her reduce the risk of accidents and improve her quality of life.”

### Some potential hazards

Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue community safety manager Shona Wright says older residents can sometimes forget that they have started cooking and go and watch the TV, do jobs or leave the house.

“We also get called to incidents where people have forgotten how to use the microwave and put it on the highest setting for much too long.

“Another danger is residents putting their electric kettle on the gas hob, melting the plastic and causing a fire.”

Shona continues: “As the fire service, we help people try and stop fires and dangerous situations happening – for example, using a microwave rather than a pan on the hob, or even organising home-delivered meals.

“Other practical ways could include programming settings in the microwave or buying a kettle specifically for use on the gas hob.”

# Stay winter well!

Keeping warm and active can help prevent a range of illnesses and even hospital admissions

Cold weather can take us by surprise, but following these simple tips will enable you to get ready for it in good time:

- **WARM** – Keep your house warm with main living rooms heated, ideally at 21°C, to help your body to fight flu, pneumonia, heart attacks, strokes and depression.
- **IMMUNISATIONS** – Get your flu vaccination. It's free if you are over-65, pregnant, have a medical condition or care for someone. Call your GP to find out more.
- **NEIGHBOURS** – Keep an eye on elderly and vulnerable neighbours and relatives.
- **TIMELY** – Seek advice from a pharmacist at the first sign of illness. You could avoid more serious complaints or even a hospital stay.
- **ENOUGH** – Make sure you, anyone you care for and your neighbours have enough medication by picking up repeat prescriptions.
- **RE-STOCK** – Make sure you have enough food and have regular hot meals and hot drinks. Have a packet of cold and flu remedies in your cupboard.

### Beating the blues

Staying active will help beat the winter blues and improve your wellbeing. If the weather is particularly cold, though, take care if you're walking on icy paths.

Another option during bad weather is to stay in and try some home exercise. See [www.nhs.uk/livewell](http://www.nhs.uk/livewell) for gym-free workouts and 10-minute exercise plans.

### Practical help

- Keeping your home warm can be a challenge, especially when things go wrong. **The Responders to Warmth** scheme, set up with the help of council funding, offers residents advice and help, including products such as heated blankets, hot water bottles and thermal socks. Support is available from October to March. Call 0845 606 4566 or visit [www.responderstowarmth.org](http://www.responderstowarmth.org).
- For independent expert advice on saving energy, home insulation and heating contact the **Energy Saving Advice Service** on 0300 123 1234 (national rate call). Alternatively you can email [energy-advice@est.org.uk](mailto:energy-advice@est.org.uk).
- Check at [www.gov.uk/browse/benefits/heating](http://www.gov.uk/browse/benefits/heating) to see if you're entitled to **Government help with heating bills** through a Winter Fuel Payment, Warm Homes Discount Scheme or Cold Weather Payment.
- Register for the next round of the **Lincolnshire Energy Switch Scheme** by 11 October 2016, and you could save on your gas and electricity bills. To register online, visit [www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/switch](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/switch) or call 0800 048 8439.
- **The Lincolnshire Central Heating Fund** fits central heating systems for free where none exists, to those on a low income. The scheme is limited, so to find out if funds remain and if you are eligible, contact the Lincolnshire Home Independence Agency on 01522 516300 or email [info@lincsia.org](mailto:info@lincsia.org). They will carry out entitlement checks and arrange a technical home survey.





# Promoting our heritage

## A local society with deep roots in the county's past is ensuring it lives on for the future

For over 170 years, local enthusiasts have been dedicated to researching and promoting Lincolnshire's extraordinary heritage.

The Society for Lincolnshire History and Archaeology (SLHA) can trace its roots back to a Lincoln antiquarian group formed in 1844.

Since then, it has joined forces with various other organisations, finally becoming the SLHA in 1974. It now has about 700 members from across the world, but its central aim remains unchanged – promoting the past for the benefit of the present and future.

The SLHA is based in a fine stone building called Jews' Court (pictured) on Steep Hill in Lincoln, next to the famous 12th-century Jew's House. However, its activities – lectures and other events, publications, research and fieldwork, links with other societies, and more – reach out across the whole of Lincolnshire.

In particular, the SLHA has thriving offshoots in the south of the county – the Sleaford History Group and the South Holland History Group in Spalding.

The SLHA is based at Jews' Court, 2-3 Steep Hill, Lincoln, LN2 1LS. The office is open on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, from 9am to noon.

**i** For more details, including events listings and how to become a member, visit [www.slha.org.uk](http://www.slha.org.uk), email [info@slha.org.uk](mailto:info@slha.org.uk) or phone 01522 521337.

### Becoming a member

If you're interested in Lincolnshire's history and would like to know more, why not consider joining the SLHA?

All new members receive a free copy of a book published by SLHA. Members also enjoy a range of other benefits, including quarterly and annual magazines and an open invitation to all events.

Annual subscription costs £26 for adults, with a concessionary price of £18 for those in full-time education. Family membership costs £27.

The membership form is available to download at the website.

### ABOUT JEWS' COURT

Jews' Court – the HQ of the SLHA – has been altered so many times that experts can't agree when it dates from.

Archaeologists put it at around 1300, while architects argue for the 17th-century – no documents have ever been discovered to solve the mystery!

By tradition, Jews' Court is the site of Lincoln's medieval synagogue, but once again the past retains its secrets, and no-one can be sure.

In the 1930s, the building was derelict and due for demolition, but thankfully Lincoln Corporation gave it to a heritage group for refurbishment. Thanks to the SLHA, the building is now at the centre of activity exploring the county's past.

It also has the best local history bookshop in Lincolnshire, as well as selling secondhand fiction and non-fiction donated by supporters. The shop is open from 10am until 4pm, Monday to Saturday.

Appropriately, given its name and history, Jews' Court is still the centre for Jewish worship in Lincoln.

# Countryside for all

New leaflets are making it easier for everyone to enjoy Lincolnshire's great outdoors

For those who enjoy the countryside but have limited mobility, a set of leaflets has been produced, featuring all the information you need.

Volunteers have been researching specially selected routes across Lincolnshire, suitable for most abilities to walk or use with wheelchairs or pushchairs.

So far, 16 Countryside for All routes have been published, with a further four in the pipeline. They take in attractive nature reserves and parks, including Bourne Wood, Deeping Lakes, Gibraltar Point and Hubbards Hills. Each leaflet provides information on path surfaces and gradients, as well as the location of seats, steps and gates.

The volunteers are from the Mid Lincolnshire, South Lincolnshire and Rutland Local Access Forums (LAFs). They aim to improve access to the countryside and are supported by the council.

Volunteer John Law says: "We aim to highlight routes that are accessible and enjoyable for people with different abilities. We choose the places we're going to feature, and talk to many people, including disability groups, to make the most of local knowledge."

"Research includes detailed measuring of gradients and the width of paths. Other useful information is included to enable people to plan a successful day out."

### Could you help?

People who are disabled or carers are being invited to become "accessibility ambassadors". They will liaise with local authorities and



voluntary organisations that manage parks, countryside and green spaces, and advise how to improve accessibility for everyone.

Training will be available to support volunteers. To find out more, please contact [cheryl.hall@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:cheryl.hall@lincolnshire.gov.uk). Also, in East Lindsey, volunteers are being sought to assist on dementia-friendly strolls for people with dementia and their carers. Email [tracey.wilkinson@mvtlc.org](mailto:tracey.wilkinson@mvtlc.org).

### Routes for riders

For those who like to explore the countryside using horsepower, volunteer John Presgrave has produced a set of circular riding trails in the Lincolnshire Wolds. They range from seven to 18 miles, mainly on bridleways and quiet county lanes, and the maps highlight any roads that need crossing, gates, parking, and pubs!

John said: "This area of the Wolds has delightful countryside, and really benefits from some well-researched routes for horse riders. Through liaising with the council and the British Horse Society, I was able to ensure the routes follow well-maintained tracks that riders can use with confidence."

### A special 40th!

The 147-mile Viking Way marked its 40th anniversary in September. It runs from the Humber to Oakham, passing through the Lincolnshire Wolds, the Limewoods and the rolling countryside of South Kesteven.

### More information

The Countryside for All leaflets, Lincolnshire Wolds Riding Trails and Viking Way information are all available at [www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/countryside](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/countryside) or from 01522 782070.



FOR ALL: Volunteer Brian Smith, right, leads a group at Whisby Nature Park.

# Out and about

The essential guide to what's on in Lincolnshire for autumn 2016

## BBMF VISITOR CENTRE

### Various dates

Based at RAF Coningsby, Dogdyke Road, Coningsby, LN4 4SY. View the aircraft of the RAF Battle of Britain Memorial Flight, including Spitfires, Hurricanes and a world-famous Lancaster. For admission charges and opening times, visit [www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/bbmf/](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/bbmf/) 01522 782040.

## FIRST WORLD WAR REMEMBERED: 1916 CONSCRIPTION, OBJECTION AND RISE OF THE TANK

10 Sept – 3 Jan, 10am – 4pm

Museum of Lincolnshire Life, Burton Rd, Lincoln, LN1 3LY. Specially curated exhibition exploring 1916, including the tank. The museum is home to an authentic WW1 tank named Daphne, as well as interactive Royal Lincolnshire Regiment galleries. Free. [www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/museumoflincolnshirelife/](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/museumoflincolnshirelife/) 01522 782040.

## PP PORTRAIT AWARD 2016

2 Sept – 13 Nov, 10am – 4pm

Usher Gallery, Danes Terrace, Lincoln, LN2 1LP. The most prestigious portraiture competition in the world arrives in Lincoln direct from its 37th year at the National Portrait Gallery, London. (See story in News in Brief section.) Admission charges apply. [www.thecollectionmuseum.com/](http://www.thecollectionmuseum.com/) 01522 782040.

## SOUTH Lincs WALKING FESTIVAL

24 Sept – 30 Oct

The second festival, organised by Heritage Lincolnshire, features free guided walks in North and South Kesteven, Boston and South Holland. Roam with ramblers, take the kids, improve your photography, or go "walkies" with your dog. [www.southlincswalking.com](http://www.southlincswalking.com).

## EUAN UGLOW / SARGY MANN EXHIBITION

24 Sept – 8 Jan, 10am – 4pm

The Collection, Danes Terrace, Lincoln, LN2 1LP. Two British painters whose work crosses the boundaries between physical and visual. [www.thecollectionmuseum.com/](http://www.thecollectionmuseum.com/) 01522 782040.

## STURTON AND STOW SHOW

1 Oct, 1.30 – 4.30pm

Sturton by Stow School and Youth Wing. The 129th agricultural / horticultural show. Admission by donation – 50p minimum (30p children). [www.sturtonandstowshow.wordpress.com/](http://www.sturtonandstowshow.wordpress.com/) 01427 717711.

## WOLDS WORDS FESTIVAL

1 – 31 Oct (various dates / times)

Centred on Alford, Horncastle, Louth and Spilsby and celebrating the rich culture of rural Lincolnshire. Workshops, talks and events covering literature, heritage, performance, and arts and crafts. Admission varies. [www.magnavitae.org/woldswords](http://www.magnavitae.org/woldswords).

## APPLE DAY

2 Oct, 11am – 4pm

Wragby Town Hall, LN8 5PH. Hosted by Lincolnshire Organic Gardeners' Organisation. Free juicing (10kg clean apples), refreshments, produce stall, organic gardening advice. Free admission. [www.logo.org.uk/](http://www.logo.org.uk/) 01673 818272.

## MADE IN SLEAFORD

7 – 8 Oct

Sleaford town centre, around National Centre for Craft and Design and Navigation Wharf. Two-day festival celebrating local manufacturing, design and engineering. Free. [www.madeinsleaford.com/](http://www.madeinsleaford.com/) 01529 414155.

## LOUTH RIVERHEAD THEATRE

### Various dates / times

Victoria Road, Louth. Playgoers present **Sense and Sensibility**, 10 – 15 Oct; **Quartet**, 7 – 12 Nov; **James and the Giant Peach**, 5 – 10 Dec. Also, **Railway Children**, 22 Oct (*Starbright Productions*); **Far from the Madding Crowd**, 19 Nov, (*Hotbuckle Productions*). Box office 01507 600350 / [www.louthplaygoers.com](http://www.louthplaygoers.com).

## COSY CONCERTS

13 Oct, 10 Nov, 8 Dec (10am)

Trinity Methodist Church, Barn Hill, Stamford, PE9 2AE. Enjoy top-quality music with your children in a relaxed setting: 13 Oct – Alex Crutchley (trombone); 10 Nov – "Clangers" concert with Estelle Langthorne (recorders) and Eleanor Turner (harp); 8 Dec – Helen Winter (soprano). Children free, adults £5.49 (online advance ticket). [www.cosyconcerts.co.uk](http://www.cosyconcerts.co.uk).

## AUTUMN GUIDED WALK

15 Oct, 10am – noon

Lincolnshire Coastal County Park. Meet in car park at Anderby Creek, PE24 5XW. Walk through the dunes looking for migrant birds and coastal wildlife. 07919 326646 / [www.lincstrust.co.uk](http://www.lincstrust.co.uk).

## WOAD FESTIVAL

15 – 16 Oct, 11am – 3pm

Moulton Windmill, High Street, Moulton, PE12 6QB. Join the fun and find out about woad. [www.moultonwindmill.co.uk/](http://www.moultonwindmill.co.uk/) 01406 373237.

## SPIRES AND STEEPLES CHALLENGE

16 Oct

From Lincoln Cathedral to National Centre for Craft and Design in Sleaford, discovering artistic and historical treasures of North Kesteven on a 26 or 13-mile run / walk. In aid of WheelPower. [www.spiresandsteeples.com](http://www.spiresandsteeples.com) or Twitter @Spires\_Steeples.

## HALLOWEEN TRAIL

22 – 31 Oct, noon – 3pm

Hartsholme Country Park, Skellingthorpe Road, Lincoln, LN6 0EY. Enjoy being scared on our creepy Halloween Trail! £2.50 per person. Booking essential. [www.lincoln.gov.uk/hartsholmecp/](http://www.lincoln.gov.uk/hartsholmecp/) 01522 873735.

## ◀ WW1 tank at Museum of Lincolnshire Life

## HORRIBLE HISTORY DAY

25 Oct, 10am – 3.30pm

The Collection, Danes Terrace, Lincoln, LN2 1LP. Family fun day looking at the gruesome side of history! Free, with optional £1 crafts. [www.thecollectionmuseum.com/](http://www.thecollectionmuseum.com/) 01522 782040.

## HOMEMADE HALLOWEEN DECORATIONS

28 Oct, 1 – 4pm

Gainsborough Old Hall, Parnell Street, DN21 2NB. Friday Family Fun Club – make scary light-up Halloween decorations! £1 per child. [www.gainsborougholdhall.com/](http://www.gainsborougholdhall.com/) 01522 782040.

## VICTORIAN DAYS OF FEAR

29 – 30 Oct, 7 – 10pm

Lincoln Castle, Castle Hill, LN1 3AA. Join us after dark and a cast of characters will immerse you in the Victorian underworld! Admission charge. [www.lincolncastle.com/](http://www.lincolncastle.com/) 01522 782040.

## HALLOWEEN AT THE TERRIFYING TEMPLAR TOWER

30 Oct, 11am – 4pm

Temple Bruer Tower, Temple Road, Lincoln, LN5 0DG. Explore the spooky tower, take the Knights Templar trail and make swords, shields and crowns. Free. [www.heritagelincshshire.org/](http://www.heritagelincshshire.org/) 01529 461499.

## RAINBOW'S HALLOWEEN WITCHES FAIR

30 Oct, noon – 4pm

Silverwood Centre, Long Sutton, PE12 9AU. Also: **Rainbow's Yule Festival**, 26 Nov, noon – 4pm, Holbeach Community Centre, PE12 7DQ; **Rainbow's Pet Fest**, 11 Dec, 11am – 4pm, Curlew Centre, Sutton Bridge, PE12 9SA. [www.rainbowfestivals.co.uk/](http://www.rainbowfestivals.co.uk/) 01406 259167.

## SPOOKY GOINGS-ON

31 Oct, 6 – 7.30pm

Cogglesford Watermill, East Road, Sleaford, NG34 7EQ. Explore this old mill and enjoy Halloween fun. Also: Festive Milling Day, with mulled wine and mince pies, 11 Dec. Both events free. [www.cogglesfordwatermill.co.uk/](http://www.cogglesfordwatermill.co.uk/) 01529 413671.

## CAISTOR BONFIRE AND FIREWORKS

5 Nov, from 6pm

South Street Park, Caistor, LN7 6UB. Organised by Caistor and District Lions. 07908182963 / [contact@caistorlions.org.uk](mailto:contact@caistorlions.org.uk).

## HANDFUL OF PLEASANT DELIGHTS

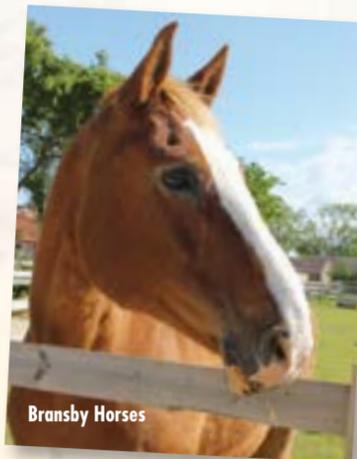
6 Nov, 3pm

Priory Church, Deeping St James, PE6 8NP. Freshe Ayre present music from medieval to modern, played on recorders, crumhorns, rebec, symphony and keyboard. Adults £6, children £4 (incl. refreshments). Tickets from 01778 346879 or on door.

## MARKET DEEPING REMEMBRANCE GARDEN

6, 11 and 20 Nov

Riverside Gardens, Market Deeping, PE6 8HA. Sun 6th at 3pm – opening; Fri 11th at 11am – two-minute silence; Sun 20th at 3pm – closing. The garden will be opened at a simple ceremony and remain open for two weeks. Residents can plant remembrance crosses throughout the fortnight. 01778 343170.



## LINCOLNSHIRE ARTISTS' WINTER EXHIBITION

7 – 20 Nov (except Mon), 10am – 4pm

Sam Scorer Gallery, Drury Lane, Lincoln, LN1 3BN. See the work of talented Lincolnshire artists. Free. [www.samscorergallery.co.uk/](http://www.samscorergallery.co.uk/) 07831 186489.

## MARIE CURIE CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

9 – 10 Nov (Wed 11am – 6pm, Thurs 9.30am – 4pm)

Petwood Hotel, Woodhall Spa. Over 60 stalls – your Christmas shopping all wrapped up! Event raises £7,000 for Marie Curie. Tickets £4 incl. tea / coffee. [www.marie.curie.org.uk/](http://www.marie.curie.org.uk/) 07525 801531.

## ROMEO AND JULIET

11 Nov

Embassy Theatre, Skegness, PE25 2UG. Ballet Theatre UK tell the tale of star-crossed lovers with astonishing grace. Tickets £12 – £20, families £56. [www.embassytheatre.co.uk/](http://www.embassytheatre.co.uk/) 01507 613100.

## THE RISE OF THE TANK

15 Nov, 2 – 3pm

Museum of Lincolnshire Life, Burton Rd, Lincoln, LN1 3LY. On the 100th anniversary of the first appearance of tanks, WW1 historian Richard Pullen gives an illustrated talk on their development and early use. Free. [www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/museumoflincolnshirelife/](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/museumoflincolnshirelife/) 01522 782040.

## CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH-ON

17 Nov, 5.30 – 8pm

High Street / St Mark's Square, Lincoln. Start the countdown to Christmas at this annual fun-packed event. Free. [www.visitlincoln.com/](http://www.visitlincoln.com/) 01522 545458.

## CHRISTMAS GIFT AND CRAFT FAIR

20 Nov, 10am – 4pm

Moulton Windmill, High Street, Moulton, PE12 6QB. Stalls selling handcrafted items and gifts. Free entry and parking. Refreshments in Granary Tea Room. Mill tours until 3pm. [www.moultonwindmill.co.uk/](http://www.moultonwindmill.co.uk/) 01406 373237.

## VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS CRAFT MARKET

20 Nov, 10am – 4pm

Caistor Town Hall, LN7 6QU. Caistor Lions annual event. 07908 182963 / [contact@caistorlions.org.uk](mailto:contact@caistorlions.org.uk).

## LOUTH CHORAL SOCIETY

20 Nov, 7.30pm

St James's Church, Louth. Autumn concert conducted by Martin Pickering and accompanied by Lincolnshire Chamber Orchestra. Also, Christmas concert – 17 Dec, 7.30pm. Festive favourites for all. [www.louthchoral.co.uk/](http://www.louthchoral.co.uk/) or Eve & Ranshaw, Louth.

## FESTIVAL OF DECORATED CHRISTMAS TREES

26 Nov, 10am – 4pm; 27 Nov, 11am – 5pm

Sleaford Methodist Church, Northgate. Opened by Mayor and Town Crier. Adults £2.50, children free. Donation from proceeds will be given to Lincs and Notts Air Ambulance. Refreshments available. Facilities for disabled people.

## SEA WATCH

26 Nov, 11am – 3pm

Lincolnshire Coastal County Park. Round-and-round hide, 500m south of Anderby Creek Car Park, Sea Road, PE24 5XW. Join coastal ranger to scan the sea for what's passing – perhaps a seal or porpoise! 07919 326646 / [www.lincstrust.co.uk](http://www.lincstrust.co.uk).

## STOW CHRISTMAS MARKET

26 Nov, noon – 3pm

Stow Minster. Stalls and refreshments in

the historic minster. Admission free. [www.stowminster.co.uk/](http://www.stowminster.co.uk/) 01427 788787.

## CHRISTMAS MARKET AND LIGHTS SWITCH-ON

26 Nov, 2pm onwards (lights after dark)

Caistor Market Place, LN7 6TU.

## VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR

26 – 27 Nov, 10am – 4pm

Gainsborough Old Hall, Parnell Street, DN21 2NB. As the Hall fills with the festive sounds, sights and tastes of Victorian Christmas, a host of specially chosen crafts people unveil their unique gifts and homeware. Admission £1. [www.gainsborougholdhall.com/](http://www.gainsborougholdhall.com/) 01522 782040.

## CHRISTMAS MARKET

27 Nov, 10am – 4pm

Market Place, Market Deeping, PE6 8EA. Goods from cheeses, meats and local beer to jewellery, paintings and gift ideas. Entertainment from local groups and schools. 01778 343170.

## SPALDING CHRISTMAS MARKET

27 Nov, 10am – 4pm

Market Place, PE11 1SL. 40-plus stalls, carol singers, band, Father Christmas, street entertainers, street food and children's entertainer. Free. [www.spaldingchristmasmarket.co.uk/](http://www.spaldingchristmasmarket.co.uk/) 07703 656238.

## CATS PANTO

30 Nov – 3 Dec, 7.30pm (plus Sat matinee)

Caistor Town Hall, LN7 6QU. Caistor Amateur Theatrical Society presents Sleeping Beauty. Tickets from Caistor Post Office on 01472 851201.

## LINCOLN CHRISTMAS MARKET

1 – 4 Dec (various times)

Castle Hill and surrounding area. Visit the magnificent market – craft stalls, food and drink from around the world, and much more! Free admission. [www.lincoln-christmasmarket.co.uk/](http://www.lincoln-christmasmarket.co.uk/) 01522 881188.

## VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS

3 – 4 Dec, 10am – 4pm

Museum of Lincolnshire Life, Burton Rd, Lincoln, LN1 3LY. Victorian characters prepare a traditional Christmas in our historic room-sets. Refreshments in tearoom. Free admission. [www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/museumoflincolnshirelife/](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/museumoflincolnshirelife/) 01522 782040.

## GIFTED CONTEMPORARY CHRISTMAS MARKET

6 – 7 Dec

National Centre for Craft and Design, Navigation Wharf, Carre St, Sleaford, NG34

7DW. Two-day craft and food market, kicking off an exciting seasonal programme. Free entry. [www.nationalcraftanddesign.org.uk/](http://www.nationalcraftanddesign.org.uk/) 01529 308710.

## BRANSBY CHRISTMAS FAYRE

10 Dec, 1 – 4pm

Bransby Horses, Bransby, LN1 2PH. Festive fun, shopping and delicious food. Plus, seasonal craft stalls, Santa's grotto, carols and mulled wine. Admission free, donations gratefully received. [www.bransbyhorses.co.uk/](http://www.bransbyhorses.co.uk/) 01427 788464.

## CHRISTMAS CAROLS IN JUBILEE PARK

16 Dec, 7pm

Thackers Way, Deeping St James, PE6 8HP. Come along to sign and hang a bauble on the tree. Free. [www.dsipc.co.uk/](http://www.dsipc.co.uk/) 01778 343266.

## PETER PAN

16 – 27 Dec

Embassy Theatre Skegness, PE25 2UG. All your favourite characters, including beautiful Tigerlily, naughty Tinkerbell and dastardly Captain Hook! Tickets £10 – £17, families £53. [www.embassytheatre.co.uk/](http://www.embassytheatre.co.uk/) 01507 613100.

## CHRISTMAS TRAIL

17 – 21 Dec, noon – 3pm

Hartsholme Country Park, Skellingthorpe Road, Lincoln, LN6 0EY. Help Father Christmas find his lost reindeer. £2.50 per person. Booking essential. [www.lincoln.gov.uk/hartsholmecp/](http://www.lincoln.gov.uk/hartsholmecp/) 01522 873735.

## CAROLS ROUND THE CHRISTMAS TREE

20 Dec, 7pm

Market Place, Market Deeping, PE6 8EA. Sing carols in a short service led by the Rector, followed by mulled wine and mince pies in town hall. 01778 343170.

## EVENT PUBLICITY

To submit details of an event for a future edition, please email [countynews@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:countynews@lincolnshire.gov.uk) at least three months before it takes place. Due to the volume of requests, we cannot guarantee inclusion, so please make other publicity arrangements.

You can also publicise events on Lincolnshire County Council's website. Visit [www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/whatson](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/whatson).