

# PLAYGROUND CLOSURE

A dramatic heading perhaps, although there are no plans for the Playing Field Association to close the playground, yet certain individuals could well force them to consider that possibility on the grounds of safety.

Chairman of the Playing Field Association, Terry Martin said (though his views aren't necessarily the committee's), "We have been looking at providing additional play equipment for the under twelves in the adventure play area following the erection of the swings for the older children but we have had to channel our funds, aside from general maintenance, towards replacing wilfully damaged equipment.

"The social club works hard to raise funds for the playing field association and some of their committee members are wondering why they bother. Clearly it isn't the children who have a legitimate reason to use the play equipment

who are doing the damage - discarded cider cans are proof of that - but youths who should know better. They are not only spoiling the fun of the younger children but are making the play area hazardous when it should be safe.

"The play area is designated for use by under twelves only. but older youths are often seen sitting under the shelters at the top of the slides. That's where recent damage has occurred."

If anyone can come up with a solution to the problem of vandalism - and it's always been an issue - then please send your ideas to *Fosdyke Newsletter* and we will pass them on to the Playing Field Association.

## HEY BIG SPENDER

As a reminder, the swings for the older children cost the Playing Field Association £6,100 - over twice the annual budget of the Parish Council.

While Fosdyke Newsletter has been critical of the parish council they contributed £500 towards the swings with a further £500 coming from Lincolnshire County Council. Lincolnshire Co-op contributed a massive £1,000, Boston Mayflower £230 and a further £365 was received in donations from local people. That still left a lot of hard work for the social club to raise the remaining £3,505.

It may not look to some that the adventure playground is well maintained but the Playing Field Association has spent over £1,000 this year to keep it in good order (£500 of that again from the parish council) and additional funds have been earmarked for further maintenance next spring, that's aside from unnecessary expenses that will be incurred by the recent intentional damage.

New play equipment hasn't been ruled out but its installation will have been delayed by the damage.

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# COMMUNITY SHOP STILL VIABLE?

Several months ago we featured a Community Shop Questionnaire in *Fosdyke Newsletter*. The feeling at the time was that responses didn't meet expectation and there was little point in continuing.

Purely as a matter of interest to the village we recently passed on the questionnaires to the parish council and Denis Glen's analysis of the questionnaires follow. It created a lot of positive discussion at the November parish council meeting which would probably have been more usefully applied at a Community Shop steering group, which doesn't exist yet.

If those people who were willing to look into the feasibility of a community shop are still willing to put in some time to organise a meeting let us know on 260275 and we'll put you in touch with each other.

Here's Cllr Glenn's analysis:

## ANALYSIS

Of the two-hundred-plus newsletters with the questionnaire there were twenty-seven returned plus one hand written note wishing the venture good luck but doubting that the village would support it. This represents a return of approximately thirteen per cent.

Twenty-six of the questionnaires returned rated a community shop important or very important with one rating it as not important.

Eleven of the returned questionnaires indicated a willingness to become involved in the project. Four of those were willing to join a steering group and eight to become involved in helping in the shop. Two returns were willing to make a donation to the project, two would make loans and four offered to buy shares.

It needs to be emphasised at this point that the parish council could not operate or run this project as it is not legally empowered to trade

and running a community shop is trading even though its aims are charitable. The parish council could, if it so resolved, support the project in a number of ways but the project leadership would have to be independent of it.

To kick start the project a steering group/committee would have to be formed. Four people volunteered on the returns, this may be a start but more would be needed to share the workload. Before the project could attract any possible grants, loans, shares, etc. it would have to become a properly constituted organisation and possibly a registered charity. The initial work of this group would be very onerous, though not necessarily insurmountable, as a robust business case would have to be produced. This would have to address issues such as the possible level of trading, initial funding, staffing, equipment, and not least that of premises. In Fosdyke there is not an obvious answer to this but if a link to an existing community facility were proposed then costs would be involved to enable security for both parties. The Plunkett Foundation, from whom the original questionnaire was produced, are a national charity who support the principal of community shops and are able to offer extensive information and support in setting up a community shop. The steering group would be well advised to engage with this charity as early as possible in the process.

Those that initially proposed the project now need to step forward and take the lead, as they simply cannot suggest an idea and then

expect others to carry out the significant amount of work and time commitment that will be needed. If they are prepared to take the lead then others may be encouraged to join them and the project could move forward.

## NEWSLETTER CIRCULATION

There are about 250 homes and premises in the parish of Fosdyke so the actual percentage of returns was nearer eleven per cent. The Plunkett Foundation suggests a thirty per cent response is the minimum requirement but hopefully more people will come forward once a steering group is set up. Contact *Fosdyke Newsletter* if you like to be a part of it.

Additionally, copies of *Fosdyke Newsletter* are delivered to houses just outside the parish and are available at The Ship, The Moorings Cafe and the social club.

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# Tweak your garden

You know that the gardening bug has truly bitten when you start really appreciating the winter landscape and then begin to tweak your own garden for that season. For most, the idea isn't that obvious unless perhaps it snows. Everything looks like a picture postcard when that happens, but since snow is not guaranteed, what else can we do to brighten things up?

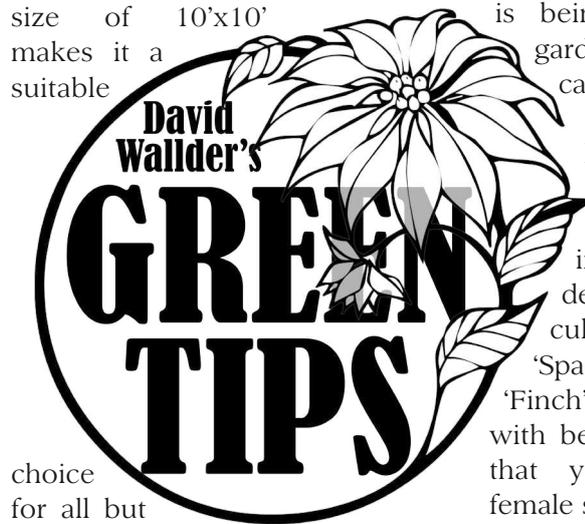
Most gardeners start with the garden's "bones" or structural elements. During the dormant season, they will be the most prominent features. Look from your favourite winter vantage point, which most likely will be a window in your warm house. That's perfect because the primary point of your garden should be to please you when you look at it. So what would give definition and structure to your view—evergreen shrubs or trees, a beautiful path, an outbuilding?

Planting evergreens in the garden means that there will always be foliage to gaze upon even in the middle of winter. There are countless choices for beautiful evergreens; conifers, magnolias, hollies, laurels and on and on. There are large ones, small ones, gold or yellow evergreens, variegated and those with blue, bronze or burgundy hues. Also of cold weather fame are the camellias, which have the audacity to bloom at this time of year. Walls, whether hedges, bricks, stone or wood, lend year-round permanence to a garden, giving a structure to decorate.

## Adding drama

After the structure is settled, the real fun begins as you strategically add a bit of drama. What about an interesting silhouette? There are plants that are even more striking in their leafless, naked form. An

example is *Corylus avellana* 'Contorta', whose whimsical, bizarre form is reflected in its common names of corkscrew hazel, contorted filbert, or the more humorous, Harry Lauder's walking stick. It is hardly noticed until its curled limbs are bare. Its eventual size of 10'x10' makes it a suitable



choice for all but the smallest gardens. One highly effective way to emphasize the twisting branches is to light it up at night after the leaves have been shed. Doing this allows more hours to enjoy its distinctiveness during the dormant season's long evenings. The dangling male catkins that adorn it in late winter only add to the appeal.

Weeping forms of trees are also spectacular year round and are very popular garden choices. Weeping cherry, willow, and Japanese maples immediately come to mind, but there is an amazing array of weeping plants available to the

adventurous gardener these days. Like the hazel, their fantastical leafless forms are quite eye-catching. Of course, the scale of the garden should limit the use of dramatic forms. In other words, a little goes a long way with unusual plants, and restraint is probably the hardest part of garden design.

## Bark and berries

Bark and berries can effectively take centre stage this time of year. Crape myrtles (especially some of the modern hybrids), river birch, coral bark maples and, if you have the space, sycamores all have magnificent bark.

Ancient Chinese quince trees bear large yellow fruits that older generations called "quince apples". A walk on a brisk day to admire its patchwork of peeling bark is worth the effort. Most correctly known as *Pseudocydonia sinensis*, it is a small, often multi-trunked tree that is being re-discovered by the gardening world for its ease of care and multi-season interest.

As for berries, there are hollies, with many evergreen options to choose from, however, increasingly popular are the deciduous hollies with telling cultivar names like 'Sparkleberry', 'Winter Red', and 'Finch's Gold'. Purchasing these with berries on them will ensure that you have fruit-producing female shrubs to go in a prominent spot, but be sure to plant a male pollinator in the background for good fruit set. When deciduous hollies lose their leaves, their brilliant berries remain on the bare stems. They are so attractive, you'd be wise to plant several in order to have extra stems to cut and arrange in a vase.

Time and space limit the possibilities. Hopefully, you may feel inspired to take a fresh look at your garden's winter landscape and consider how to improve it and plant for interest in every season. Who knew restraint might be a problem in winter?

# FOSDYKE'S FUN FRIGHT FEST

While the Vinyl Halloween Disco at Fosdyke Social Club on Saturday, 31 October, might not have been supported by many of the more senior residents of Fosdyke there were plenty of youngsters and parents to make it a success.

Hosts Liz Martin, who spent three hours on Saturday morning turning the social club into a proper Halloween venue, having made cakes for everyone the previous day, and husband Terry, who spent six hours on his feet spinning discs as DJ, showed what can be done in a small village like Fosdyke (and remember it was Liz who ran with



her idea to put on a a pantomime the other year - and that was a success too).

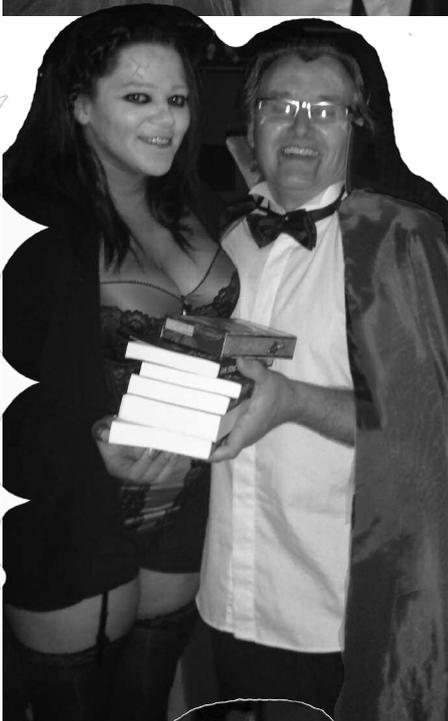
Other than the hosts there were few adults brave enough to go in fancy dress. But one table from Wigtoft with Ann Mullbregt (opposite page, top left) received the adult prize (chocolates and the Vampire Gene series of books donated by local publishers The House of Murky Depths) along with Kiya Brown (opposite page, middle) from Randolph Road.

Jason Mehmet from Sleaford was considered the most independent judge and gave first prizes in the younger category to Carly (on the left) and Taylor (on the Right).

Pictured above are Liz and Terry Martin.



# FISH'N'CHIP FRIDAY



By now you'll most likely have heard the Star Wars jingle on a Friday evening.

For those who haven't yet discovered what it's all about Fosdyke now has it's own visiting Fish & Chip van called Scraps arriving at Snaith Avenue around 5pm (sometimes earlier if previous stops have been quiet) and then moving on to Bell Lane until about 6pm.

Having tried them ourselves we

have to say we were pleased with the quality. It's all freshly cooked to order so you're not going to get a piece of fish that's been sitting under the heat lamps for hours.

Obviously you're unlikely to have fish'n'chips every Friday but we need to encourage any new service that comes to Fosdyke, so keep them in mind for a little treat to start the weekend.

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# Fosdyke FC

## EXCITING STUFF

Fosdyke 2

v

Swineshead Reserves-2

A ferocious battle took place at Fosdyke on 17 October as the home side locked horns with Swineshead's second string and a well earned point was won.

The game got off to a disastrous start as within seconds of the game beginning a visiting striker raced through on the end of a long ball and struck a very early opener. Any thoughts that Fosdyke were in for a long afternoon were soon swept away though as the first half was completely dominated by the men in tangerine.

Matthew Scott was unlucky to have an equaliser ruled out for off side as Fosdyke pushed for a goal that would draw them level. The forward was not to be denied as he struck again right at the end of the half to deservedly level things up for Fosdyke.

The second half was just as combative as the first and play swung from end to end. James Hawkes and Michael Beauchamp were outstanding in the middle and Ben Lawton became more and more influential as the game wore on.

Matt Bates gave Fosdyke a well-deserved lead when he saw his far post header saved and followed up

in the ensuing melee to force the ball home before an heroic rear guard action saw the home side almost hold out for three points.

As the pressure piled on it could have gone either way and a clever finish from the same striker who gave Swineshead the lead levelled things up again. Determined not to be beaten by a late winner as in previous weeks Fosdyke dug in and fought off everything thrown at them with the game entering a tense final ten minutes which saw the Swineshead keeper at full stretch to palm away a goal-bound Leon Marsh header and substitute Gavin Paul Cox go agonisingly close as his finish sailed over the bar.

Swineshead actually hit the bar and Ian Jack Smith pulled off an amazing save at the feet of three Swineshead players! Exciting stuff and a share of the points for both teams was probably a fair reflection of the game.

Man of the match? Many nominees - Jimmy Hawkes took to his new role as central midfield destroyer with aplomb and Matt Scott was phenomenal up and down the left hand side but the award went to The Colossus of Fosdyke Gary O'Connor in the heart of defence.

## NARROW DEFEAT

Fosdyke 1

v

Leverton Sheepgate 2

Fosdyke took a 1-0 lead into half time on 24 October and had been by far the better side in a first half that saw a tough tackling defensive master class from the men in orange.

The goal was scored when a long goal kick was flicked on by James Hawkes to the on-rushing Matthew Scott who initially looked to have lost control of the ball. Through sheer persistence however, the front man got the ball back and rolled a finish beyond the keeper into the far side of the net. A

cool finish and just what Fosdyke deserved.

At the other end keeper Darren was on hand to pull off two superb saves from long range shots to preserve Fosdyke's lead. The second half saw our visitors up their game and start to dominate proceedings although Fosdyke looked compact and solid in defence.

It took something very special to get them back in the game and that came when a Leverton player unleashed an absolutely unstoppable effort from thirty yards that found the top corner despite keeper Darren almost getting to it. This completely changed the game and Leverton became the stronger side as they pushed for a winner. It came when a free kick was floated in to the area and their striker nipped in between defenders and got a head to it making it 2-1.

Not to be beaten, Fosdyke rallied and had a penalty shout waved away as substitute Joey Butler saw his volleyed effort

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blocked at close range by a defender who seemingly used an arm to do so. The referee saw it differently and a corner was awarded. A full time score of 2-1.

Another positive performance, just not the positive result Fosdyke were looking for! Man of the Match for the second week running was Gary O'Connor in the heart of the back four. The man is a monster!

## DETERMINED EFFORT

Old Leake 3

v

Fosdyke 0

A way in the cup to a Premier League side was never going to be easy and in the pouring rain at Old Leake Fosdyke gave a good account of themselves despite a 3-0 defeat.

The game was pretty even to start with as both sides looked to attack - Old Leake through their

clever midfielders and wingers, Fosdyke through the two target men Matt Bates and Marv Jolly.

It was the men in orange who first tested the opponents keeper when Chris Chapman teed up Jolly on the edge of the box and the veteran unleashed a powerfully struck shot that had the keeper at full stretch to tip around the post.

Old Leake went one better and found the back of the net when a home player cut in from the wing and caught our keeper out with a shot that squirmed in at the near post. A second soon followed for Old Leake but Fosdyke refused to collapse and Matthew Scott came very close to getting them back in to it when a rasping drive rattled the post.

A reshuffled side in the second half saw Danny Beecham return from injury and add some much needed drive to the midfield. Chances started to come for the Tangerines, though Old Leake were guilty of not finishing a

number of opportunities that would have killed the game off. The most notable when Michael Beauchamp's last ditch sliding clearance kept out what seemed destined to be a third that would have finished it as a competition.

The home side were very slick in possession but Fosdyke gave a determined performance in the second forty five. Try as they might though, that break through just wouldn't come - Matt Bates thumped a header over the bar and Matt Scott's diving attempt saw his header smothered by the goalie. A late penalty sealed the victory for Old Leake who Fosdyke were sporting enough to wish good luck to in the next round.

For Fosdyke? It's back to league action with an away trip to Boston College on Saturday, 21 November.

Man of the Match? Michael Beauchamp was outstanding in defence all afternoon and kept the score down in the face of some very talented attackers.

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RMC A	13	69	21
Draymans B	13	52	15
Holbeach A	13	51	14
RMC B	13	49	13
Fishermans B	13	47	13
Holbeach B	14	51	10
Draymans A	13	50	9
Fishermans A	14	49	9

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# THE FENNEY MYSTERIES

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## A Question of Murder

by Jane Crane

### PART TWO

“Please help. They are going to kill me.” Gould had been staring at the chilling message for the last few minutes. The words were scrawled untidily onto toilet paper, like they’d been written in a hurry.

“I didn’t check my pockets until a few days later, I was searching for a pen to scribble something down.” Catriona Randall had returned to her seat by the fireplace and dropped down heavily into it. She brushed something distasteful off of her trousers.

“By then it was too late. My Uncle had run away from the hospital and disappeared.”

Gould put the paper on the mantelpiece. “I don’t mean to sound callous, Ms Randall, but your Uncle was a patient in a secure mental facility. What makes you think that this message isn’t anything more than the paranoid ramblings of a disturbed man?”

Catriona fixed Gould with a penetrating stare.

“My Uncle wasn’t disturbed, Mr Gould.”

“Forgive me, but he was in a mental hospital, Ms Randall, what else would he be?”

“He was confused and lonely. He’d been going through a really hard time, my aunt had recently passed away and the grief was killing him.” Catriona reached into her pocket for a tissue to wipe her eyes. “She was his whole world and without her he just fell apart. He was depressed and had been having problems at work, patients complaining about his odd behaviour, that sort of thing. He was eventually suspended. I think that was the last straw, he tried to take his own life and for his own safety he was sectioned.”

Gould nodded. During his years on the force he’d seen plenty of examples of people suffering from mental illness who had been sectioned under the Mental Health Act because there was no other way to

help them. He was only too aware of how easy it was to get lost in that system.

“You said your Uncle was a Doctor?”

“Yes. Neuro-surgeon at Queen’s Medical Centre.”

“But they suspended him?”

“Yes. He took quite a lot of time off after my Aunt died and when he eventually went back to work his behaviour was a little,” Catriona paused, searching for the right word, “shall we say, unpredictable.”

Gould wasn’t surprised they’d suspended him then; no hospital wants an unstable neuro surgeon running around wielding a scalpel.

“How long had he been in the hospital before he disappeared?” Gould asked.

“About two months. I tried to visit as often as I could, I was all he had. The last time I saw him was only a few days before he ran away.”

“And that’s when he slipped you the note, you think?”

Catriona nodded, staring down at her hands in her lap.

“I should have noticed that he needed my help, but he didn’t say anything, I didn’t think he was about to run off.”

Gould put a comforting hand on the young woman’s shoulder.

“He wasn’t a well man, Ms Randall, what happened wasn’t your fault.”

The young woman nodded. “You’re very kind, Mr Gould, but it doesn’t make me feel any better about abandoning him in a place that obviously terrified him.”

“No, I can see that but I don’t really know what you think it is I can do to help you.” Gould rubbed the stubble on his jaw, another recent mark of his retirement from the force; after 25 years of being smart and clean shaven, Gould had recently become something of a slob. He quite liked it, after all he was on his own, who did he need to impress? As if able to read his mind Catriona stood up and looked around at the living room strewn with old newspapers and mugs with coffee rings at the bottom.

“It looks to me like you need something to occupy your mind, Mr Gould. All this,” she gestured towards a half-eaten plate of toast with a perfectly manicured hand, “is the result of your obvious boredom and dissatisfaction with your current situation.”

Gould was about to argue but then thought better of it; she was right, he was bored. It couldn’t hurt to get in touch with some of his old colleagues, ask a few questions, take a look at the file on Peter Randall’s death perhaps?

“Alright,” he said, “I’m not promising anything but I’ll make a few enquiries and see what I can dig up.”

Gould saw a look of utter relief sweep across the young woman’s face and, for the first time since she’d been here, she smiled.

“Oh thank you, Mr Gould, you don’t know how glad I am to hear you say that.” Before he knew what was happening Catriona Randall had grabbed him and begun hugging him. He removed her arms from around his shoulders as delicately as he could and

cleared his throat. Shows of overt emotion made him decidedly uncomfortable, a fact that had no doubt contributed to the end of one marriage and numerous subsequent relationships.

"I'll leave you my card." she said. "It's got all my details on it. Please call me as soon as you know anything." She handed Gould a small white card emblazoned with the words 'Catriona Randall – Interior Designer' in bold black ink. Gould smiled to himself. No wonder she'd taken such interest in the state of his living room.

"Something funny, Mr Gould?"

"No, no, nothing at all. I'll hang on to this and let you know if I find anything." Gould gestured towards the living room door. Now he had a mission he had to admit he was itching to get started on it. Thankfully Ms Randall took the hint and made her way out of the room and towards the front door. Gould reached past

her to open it and she stepped through. Once outside she stopped and turned back to face him.

"I should probably tell you that I've already been back to the hospital to try and get some answers but they weren't very helpful. They had me escorted off the premises by security." She mumbled this last part under her breath, almost as if she didn't want him to hear.

"What?" he exclaimed. "What did you do?"

Catriona waved a dismissive hand. "Nothing really. I might have threatened to punch the hospital director but really, I mean look at me, it's not like I could have done the man any real damage could I?" With that she turned and walked back to her car.

Gould was speechless. What had he gotten himself involved in now?

END OF PART TWO

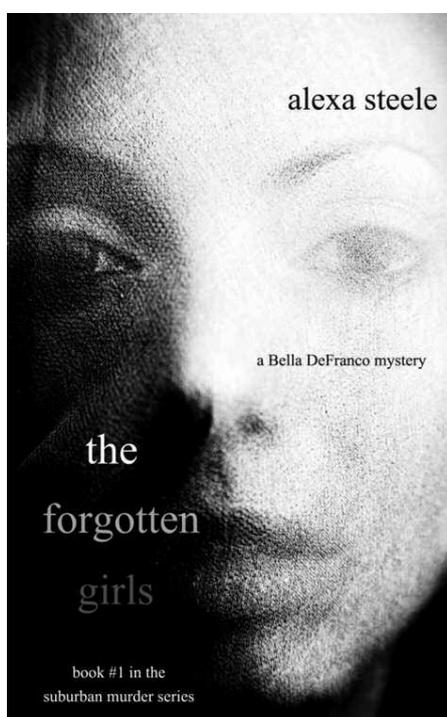
# Fosdyke Book Review

**The Forgotten Girls - Book one of the Suburban Murder Series.**

A debut crime thriller by a female author Alexa Steel

This is a fast paced yet easy read about a pair of American Detectives investigating the rape and murder of a wealthy socialite, Detective Isabella DeFranco or (Bella as she is affectionately called) an expert of many years in the abuse of and crimes against women and her side kick Mack an old timer whose drinking problem has interrupted his career. During their investigation into the murder of Joslyn Freed they come into contact with the many cosseted women and children of Greenvale, a suburb where the rich and famous live. Great story lines, good twists, crazy mums and plenty of intrigue had me guessing from start to finish. Highly recommend this book if you enjoy murder mysteries ...loved the killer twist at the end.

On the down side, and there is one, there were many typo's and contradictions throughout this book but you can't expect too much from a debut novel which has been self



published. It definitely needed another edit, however this didn't spoil my enjoyment of the book and I shall be looking for another by the same author. Free on Kindle.

## PHATT KNAPPii

performing  
electro-acoustic covers and  
original songs  
at

### *The Ship Inn*

on

## Wednesday 2 December

8.30 pm





### Obedience Competition Class

*Tuesday 7 pm - 9.30 pm*

### Puppy Class

*Wednesday 6.30 pm - 7.25 pm*

### General Class of mixed ability

*Wednesday 7.30 pm - 9.15 pm*



Fosdyke Village Hall

to help socialise your dog, teach obedience and communication and achieve the Kennel Club Obedience Tests of Bronze, Silver and Gold

**Chestnut Lodge Dog Training** Margaret Law

Cert. Applied Animal Behaviour - University of Southampton, Aff. The Kennel Club Gt Britain, Aff. The British Institute of Professional Dog Trainers

Margaret is an experienced dog trainer and competitor in Obedience Competition. She has also trained her Golden Retrievers to work for the gun and has carried out demonstrations of gun dog training at County shows including All About Dogs in Brentwood, Essex, for three years running. She currently offers Behavioural advice for problem behaviour in pets.

[www.petbehavioursolutions.net](http://www.petbehavioursolutions.net)

For further information please ring Margaret on 01406370920 [margaret.law4@gmail.com](mailto:margaret.law4@gmail.com)



# Letters

## INCREASE IN GUNDOGS GOING MISSING

With an English Setter recently going missing in the Whaplode area and the sobering thought for those with Gundogs in the community that recent figures provided by DogLost, the UK's largest lost and found dog service, suggesting that the number of Gundogs going missing has risen yet again by a further fourteen per cent this year on last year, we should now take the opportunity to review the security arrangements for our animals.

## THE CROSS IN WHITECROSS MAKES YOU ...

I've got two things to complain about

Number 1:

This morning (Tuesday, 26 October) we were in our front garden. A woman in an olive colour four-wheel drive went passed like an idiot. She must have thought she was Stirling Moss. She didn't slow down at all and carried on at the same speed right down Whitecross Gate. The 30 mph starts and ends at the end of our bungalow.

There are plenty of other drivers who haven't got a clue that it is 30mph, but that woman this morning beats them all. If a dog or a little child had come out of ANY of the houses in the lane, she would have killed them, she wouldn't have been able to stop. To be honest, if I could have got her number, I'd have reported her,

Number 2 :

Dogs messing outside mine and next door's gates, and NO one clears it up. Doesn't matter to them as long as it isn't in their garden. We have dogs but if and when we take any of them out we take "doggie bags" and clean up if need be, Not like SOME who bring their dogs up here with no intention of clearing up.

That's the end of my complaints, but that *idiot* of a woman this morning made my blood boil.

Sheila Ledsham, Whitecross Gate

## THANKS FOR REVIEW

Thank you to the book reviewer. I read *The Paper Magician* by Charlie N Holmberg, reviewed in last month's newsletter and thoroughly enjoyed it.

So much so I've started the *Glass Magician* which is the second book in the trilogy.

Thanks. Keep it up.

*Name and Address supplied*

**SUTTERTON SURGERY**  
Patient Participation Group

Present

# An Evening of Entertainment

with

**RACENIGHT**  
**RAFFLE – BIG PRIZES**  
**BARBECUE & BAR**

**Sutterton Village Hall**

**Saturday, 16th January 2016**

Evening starts at 7pm

All proceeds go to the Surgery Equipment Fund

Tickets: Adults £10 Children £5

Children under 3 free

Entry includes refreshments - Admission by ticket only

Contact John on 01205 260226 for tickets

Although there is no suggestion that the Setter was stolen and although animal theft is not prevalent in this area, it would be foolish of us not to think that it could happen here especially with the A17 on our doorstep.

However, what is more disturbing is that it will be law in April 2016 for all dogs to be microchipped but should a dog go missing or get stolen and subsequently be found it will not be law for a vet, rescue centre or an authority to have to scan it and return it to its owner.

The Dog Union research tells us that 94% of dog owners believe their dog will be scanned if found but this is a myth. The only way to get dogs scanned dead or alive is to make it law.

"Best Practice" is what the government advocates but to date this has failed many owners of dogs, cats and horses.

Irrespective of the distress that an owner of a microchipped horse that goes missing or is stolen may go through, there is the warning given by Prof Chris Elliott (who was commissioned by Defra to assess the scale of food crime after the horsemeat furore in February 2013) at the 2015 Fighting Food Fraud conference. He warned that the UK is still at risk of another similar horse meat scandal unless it is taken seriously by authorities and police.

It goes without saying that microchip scanning must be taken

seriously and the only way to protect owners and their animals is to make it law. To help us do that I would ask your readers to sign the e-petition for compulsory scanning as soon as possible.

<https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/104379>

*Arnot Wilson, (Director)*  
The Dog Union  
01205 260 267  
07521 353903  
thedogunion@gmail.com  
arnot.wilson@gmail.com

## I'M NOT HAPPY

With regard to November's newsletter, I feel I have been taken out of context.

I am not 'happy' with 16mb but my response was to Terry's query that why after the BT upgrade some of us still seemed to only get 2mb. I would love to know who the provider is who will give 70mbps and free installation. When I search for 'Fibre Optic available in Fosdyke by my postcode' I can only find BT infinity which is not free to install, expensive and BT won't commit themselves to saying it is definitely available here.

*Marnie G*

Editor: *The provider is Freeola who use BT's 80 Mbs line and supply a new free router as well as free installation. Minimum contract is twelve months at £12.95 pm.*

## FOSDYKE

### HANDBAG THEFT

Mr Albert Garrard, farm foreman of Moulton Marsh, was fined £1 and ordered to pay 15 shillings, costs at the North Holland Sessions, for stealing a woman's handbag containing money and articles together of the value of £3 14s 8d, the property of Mrs Emma Harrison, farm foreman's wife, of Fosdyke House, Fosdyke.

Superintendent E Dawson said that Mrs Harrison, on returning from Boston shopping trip, on the bus to Fosdyke, left her handbag on the bus by mistake. Mr Garrard, who had been on the bus after Mrs Harrison left it, was interviewed by Pc Ayto the following day, when he denied all knowledge of the handbag. Later, he admitted picking it up off the bus floor and taking it home.

Garrard pleaded not guilty. He admitted taking the bag home with him, but denied that he intended keeping it. He said that after telling the policeman that he had not seen the bag, and he was afraid to return it, and so disclose the lie. The whole thing had worried him.

Source:

*Nottingham Evening Post  
Thursday, 10 December, 1931*



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## ADVENT SUNDAY

On Advent Sunday this year, we shall be holding a very special service to mark the occasion with our friends and neighbours from our church grouping - Algarkirk and Kirton. Please do try to come as we all celebrate the beginning of the season of preparation for Christmas. There will be refreshments after the service and a chance for a chat.

## POP-IN LUNCH

A huge thank you to all those who made our recent lunch the biggest ever! Over £250 was raised for much needed church funds - THANK YOU. Another pop-in is planned for January 2016, but yet to be confirmed. Details will be up on posters and on the church notice board soon.

## GARDEN OF REST

Several folks have stopped me and asked me to say again how good it is to see the Church Garden of Rest looking so well cared for, thanks to Carole Marshall and her volunteer 'tidy-up' campaign. Thanks Carole.

## NEW VICAR

I have been asked why we were unable to appoint a new vicar following the recent interview process. To put it simply a very special candidate was being looked for, who could satisfy the different needs of the three churches in our

little group of Algarkirk, Fosdyke and Kirton - who could work in the villages, work with youth, and grow our church communities together. The interview panel unanimously felt that the one candidate selected for interview was too traditional to meet these needs, and so the quest for the right person continues. The bishop of Lincoln is taking a personal interest in this, as is the patron of Kirton Church who are prepared in principle to fund some youth work in our group, which we consider vital. In the meantime Fr. Paul Noble continues to look after us at Fosdyke and will arrange all services for us. Fr. Paul can be easily contacted on :-

The Revd P V Noble  
Rural Dean  
Skirbeck St Nicholas  
Skirbeck Rectory, Fishtoft Road,  
Skirbeck, Boston PE21 0DJ  
01205 362734,  
frpnoble@skirbeckrectory.freese  
rve.co.uk

Fr. Paul has recently been appointed as Rural Dean ( a regional church leader) for our area by the Bishop of Lincoln.

## CHRISTMAS FAYRE 2015

Is set to be a grand affair and bigger than ever, with more stalls, more people, more fun, and hopefully more fundraising done

The Christmas Fayre this year is on Saturday 28 November in the Village Hall.

## CAROL SERVICE

The village carol service will be held in the church from 6pm on Sunday 20th December. This year, the service will be of carols old and new by candlelight - with

a slightly more lighthearted feel about it. We will be joined by our friends and neighbours from Algarkirk and Kirton so there should be a good big crowd for a happy event - followed by warming Christmas refreshments and a chance for a good old natter and swapping of cards etc. Please come along and bring your family with you.

## MIDNIGHT MASS

Well - when you are in between vicars you can't get a midnight mass at midnight! This year our very special 'first communion of Christmas' will be at 9pm and we are very fortunate indeed to be joined by the Rural Dean - the Revd. Fr. Paul Noble.

## CHRISTMAS IS COMING

On behalf of the Churchwardens - Terry and Jon, and the PCC of All Saints, we would like to wish all of our friends and neighbours in the village a very, very happy Christmas, with a chance to celebrate, and perhaps also a chance for a little rest. Happy Christmas one and all.

## PARIS BOMBINGS

A prayer for those affected by the recent terrible bombings:-

God of love, whose compassion never fails, we bring before you the people of Paris, horrified at the violence from which it seems none are safe: hold back the hands that kill and maim, turn around the hearts that hate, and grant healing and aid to those in pain and grief; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

## IN MEMORY OF THE LATE SHIRLEY GRATTON

The church would like to create a very special dedicated flower pedestal in wrought iron to commemorate the lifetime of devotion to All Saints Church that was given by the late and sorely

Jon Tofts reports

# All Saints

Fosdyke

Churchwardens:  
Jon 01205 260672  
Terry 01205 260408

missed Shirley Gratton. Shirley was a hugely gifted floral arranger and so we have thought this a suitable addition to our church, will be commissioned shortly. If anyone feels they can make a donation to the cost of this commission could you please do so to Terry, Jon or Elaine – any amount small or large will be most gratefully received. Thank you.

## Services

**Sunday, 29 November**  
Group Service for  
Advent Sunday  
at 10.30 am

**Sunday, 6 December**  
Holy Communion

at 09.30 am

**Sunday, 20 December**  
Carols old and new  
by candlelight  
at 6 pm

**Thursday, 24 December**  
first Communion of  
Christmas by  
candlelight  
(Midnight Mass)  
at 9 pm

**Sunday, 3 January, 2016**  
Holy Communion  
at 09.30 am

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# THE GREAT FOSDYKE ANNUAL CHRISTMAS FAYRE 2015

will be held in the  
**Village Hall**

from 2pm on

**Saturday, 28 November**

Bigger and better than ever - Loads to see and do  
**Something for everyone**

- ▲ Visit Santa in his Grotto ▲ Grand Christmas Hamper draw
- ▲ Gift Stalls ▲ Produce ▲ Cakes and Puddings etc.
- ▲ Games ▲ Raffle ▲ Refreshments
- ▲ Childrens Colouring competition
- ▲ And much more besides

## THE SALE OF MR WILLIAM BETT FOSDYKE FARMING STOCK

One of the largest business gathering which have been witnessed in the this district for an exceedingly long period took place on Thursday 25th March, when the very valuable farming stock and implements on his Fosdyke "Irelands" farm in the occupation of Mr William Bett of Fosdyke House were offered by public auction by Mr Charles H Sharpe, of the Villa, Swineshead.

For a long period Mr Bett's name has been held in high repute in the agricultural world, and it is well known that the gentleman's various farms have always been stocked to repletion with animals, both in breeding and symmetry, of the very highest class.

As a consequence Mr Sharpe had the satisfaction of offering to his numerous companies on Thursday no less than 479 sheep, 58 beasts, 34 cart, blood and harness horses, and various pigs, in addition to the miscellaneous implements necessary for the thorough management of a 400 acre farm.

The sale was timed for ten o'clock, and shortly after that hour a start was made with the business of the day, the bidding for the stock being exceedingly rapid, and the grand team of horses making big prices. In fact, despite the depressed times, the result of Mr Sharpe's day's work shows that there is really at the present moment a great demand and ready market for prime cattle of accredited breeds and high stamina's, for in less than four hours the auctioneer was enabled to run through the immense number of lots down on the card with a satisfactory result to all parties, Just now this is a feat of which any gentleman may well be proud, and we congratulate Mr Sharpe alike upon the rapidity with which he was enabled to dispose of the valuable animals for the time coming under his hammer, and the exceedingly large and business like company which he was enabled to bring together. Having knocked off the last lot, the dealers and other gentlemen were ready to make a move by the early trains.

Source: *Lincolnshire Free Press Tuesday, 29 March, 1881*

# Fosdyke Social Club

Saturday, 5 December

## OPEN ROAD

Acoustic covers band  
£5 members  
£5.50 non-members



Sunday, 6 December

## XMAS CRAFT FAIR

1.30 pm - 4 pm - Free entry  
Tables £5



Thursday, 10 December

## LIVE MUSIC

@ OPEN MIC NIGHT

Opens 8 pm, Music 9 pm  
Second Thursday of every month



Saturday, 12 December

## QUIZ NIGHT

plus fish'n'chip (or scampi  
or chicken) supper  
£5.50 members  
£6 non-members



## Sunday, 13 December SPALDING POOL LEAGUE FINALS & TROPHY PRESENTATION

7 pm



Tuesday, 24 December

## SECRET SANTA PRESENTS TIME

For inquiries or to book tickets contact  
Jane Bristow 01205 260455

# AUTUMN SUPPER SUCCESS



## HELP FOR THE AGED

Positive vibes from the parish council? Whatever next? But there were some at the November meeting although parts of the discussions might better have taken place outside of the meeting..

It did appear though that the parish council still wanted to support the project that ex-Cllr Carole Marshall was planning to implement before she resigned. While she still might appear to be the best person to lead it, with the council's backing, particularly baring in mind the amount of work she has already put in, she has decided not to continue. If you are interested in picking up where Carole left off then please let the newsletter or the parish council know.

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[harrisonholistics@gmail.com](mailto:harrisonholistics@gmail.com)

An Autumn Supper was a great excuse to enjoy a night at the races at the social club on Saturday 14 October.

Always a popular event, this year's was no disappointment. Lots of fun was had, money spent and food consumed. Cold ham and pork pie with salad and hot potatoes was followed by either chocolate or strawberry gateaux.

Race compère for the night was Martyn Hayes



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# BEST KEPT VILLAGE

We were planning to publish last year's report on Fosdyke's entry into the Best Kept Village Award this month to encourage you all to start thinking about how you could improve your front garden and surrounding area for next year's entry. Hopefully we'll have it for the January issue.

You may remember that we reported in *Fosdyke Newsletter* that the parish council enters the village in the competition every year, apparently advertising the fact on the village noticeboard (We wonder how many of you read that). Even so, it would be good to start thinking about improving the village. Malcolm Gwynn already spends his free time voluntarily keeping our roads and pathways clear of litter but we could all do more ourselves to make everyone feel pride in Fosdyke's appearance. We may not win but brightening up the neighbourhood is going to

make us all feel better. Let's do it!

Children, if you're out playing, either take your rubbish home or put it in the bin near the social club, there is a can bank there too. Dog owners: There's no excuse now to not picking up your doggie's doos. The new bin is in place or take it home and put it in your own bin. Think tidy.

## FOLK DUO AT OPEN MIC



While many of the regular performers were missing at the November Open Mic night at the social club, a new folk duo, Coroners Court, entertained, while Kiya Brown stepped in on guitar with Phatt Knappii for absent Terry Martin.

# FOSDYKE PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE

The parish council has created a website which is now under development.

The aim of this website is to provide effective and direct communication to parishioners, so please have a look and see if you find it useful to you. If there is something you would like to see on there, which is not included at present, please feel free to use the contact process so that any new items can be considered. If anyone is prepared to contribute – again, please contact us. We aim to update the website on a monthly basis.

At present the contents include:-

- Home
- Parish News
- Parish Council
- Minutes & Agendas
- Parish Map
- All Saints Parish Church
- Fosdyke Newsletter
- Local Business Directory
- Fosdyke Village Hall
- Fosdyke Playing Fields Association
- Useful Contact Numbers from Fosdyke

<http://parishes.lincolnshire.gov.uk/Fosdyke>

## FOSDYKE PARISH COUNCIL

<http://parishes.lincolnshire.gov.uk/Fosdyke/>  
Clerk to the Council, Mrs. W. DePear

Ferry House, Old Inn Lane,  
Fosdyke Bridge, Boston,  
Lincs PE20 2DE  
01205 260609

wdepear.clerk@btinternet.com  
Councillor Martin Pitt (Chairman)

Tel. 01205260378

Councillor Denis Glenn

Tel. 01205 260615

Vacant position

Councillor Chris Cropley

Tel. 01205 260226

Councillor Jon Tofts

Tel. 01205 260672

## BOSTON BOROUGH COUNCILLORS for FOSDYKE

Councillor Aaron Spencer

Tel. 01205 460394

Councillor Mike Cooper

## LINCOLNSHIRE COUNTY COUNCILLOR for FOSDYKE

Councillor Mike Brookes

Tel. 01205 820616

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# CHRISTMAS DOLE

The Christmas Dole will be  
given out on

**Monday  
21 December, 2015**

at 12.00 in the

## VILLAGE HALL

Anyone who has not received the  
dole previously but consider they  
may be eligible for it should apply  
in writing giving their details and a  
contact telephone number to the  
address below by

**FRIDAY, 11 DECEMBER 2015**

Clerk to the Trustees, DENIS  
GLENN, 3 OLD MAIN ROAD,  
FOSDYKE, BOSTON

## BUTCHER'S AND BLACKSMITH'S SHOPS FOR LET AT FOSDYKE BRIDGE

A Blacksmith's Shop, and  
House, where a good trade  
has been carried on for the  
last seven years.; also a  
Butcher's Shop.

Apply to Thomas Wilson the  
owner Fosdyke Bridge Lin-  
colnshire.

*Source: Stamford Mercury  
Friday, 2 May, 1851*

## STILL CYCLING

For those who fancy a cycle  
ride but don't want to go out  
on their own, the Social Bike  
Ride will be continuing on a  
Sunday morning from 11 am,  
starting at the Social Club in  
most weather conditions.

Varying abilities and distances  
are catered for. If your cycling has  
been neglected don't worry the  
group take it steady, but if you're  
looking for a longer ride or fancy a  
bit of speed someone will keep you  
company.

### Fosdyke Village Hall Lottery 250 Draw - Latest Winners

36	Mr J Thompson	Bicker	£10
257	Mr S Woods	Donington	£10
173	Mrs P Harris	Whaplode	£10
163	Mrs M Palmer	Long Sutton	£10
171	Mrs M Dolby	Pinchbeck	£15
121	Mrs E M King	Whaplode	£20
112	Mrs J Deaton	Boston	£25

**Next draw: Monday 14 December at the Bingo**

## Village Hall BINGO

**Every Monday**

Doors open 6 pm for eyes  
down at 7 pm

Strip of six books £5

**Alan (260654) will find  
you a seat!**

## Copy Deadline

News that means nothing to you  
might be interesting to someone  
else so don't be afraid to contact  
Terry - preferably via  
email: [terry@fosdyke.org.uk](mailto:terry@fosdyke.org.uk)  
or phone:

260275

or knock on the door or post your  
info through the letter box  
6 Whitecross Gate

**no later than 15 December**

## The Ship Inn

[www.shipinnfosdyke.co.uk](http://www.shipinnfosdyke.co.uk)  
[theshipinnfosdyke@gmail.com](mailto:theshipinnfosdyke@gmail.com)

01205 260764



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Afternoon Teas 2 pm until 5 pm

Evening Menu from

5.30 pm until 9pm

**Sunday**

Lunch Carvery sittings

12 noon and 1.30 pm

Main Menu available from 3.30 pm

Afternoon Tea 3 pm until 5 pm