

Fosdyke Newsletter

GALA DAY OR NOT?

Some years ago, so the Newsletter has been informed, the Fosdyke Gala Day was a whole weekend and attracted huge crowds and was a great family event. In recent years there have been attempts to revive it, and with some degree of success.

Last year a lot of work was put in by a small amount of people and their labours, while raising some money for charity, in no way equated to the time and effort they put in.

Are people too interest in

themselves these days to bother with organising something that will be enjoyed by others? Perhaps some of the newer residents in the village will also rise to the challenge. See advert on Page 8.

Editor's Comment

No problems with broadband or dogs, so it seems, in fact very little feedback at all from the last issue.

Unfortunately the Gala Day meeting was on Mothers Day, so the six people who turned up have rescheduled the meeting to Friday, 12 April at 7.30 pm at the Social club. If no one else turns up then there won't be a Gala Day. Full stop.

The pantomime idea is moving along a pace, with *Jack and The Beanstalk* being the favoured choice.

Check out the new gardening column on Page 4.

The Ship Inn, Main Road Fosdyke Bridge Opening Times

Sunday to Thursday 11.30am - 10pm

Friday and Saturday 11.30am - 11pm

Monday to Saturday

Food served from 12 noon until 9pm

Bar snacks & Afternoon Teas served from 12 noon until 6pm

Full Evening Menu from 6pm until 9pm

Sunday

Lunch Carvery sittings 12 noon & 1.45pm

Afternoon Tea 3pm until 5pm

Evening Carvery 6pm until 8pm

Please book to avoid disappointment



The Ship Inn

01205 260764

Boston Belle is based on the River Witham at Boston from April to October with a comfortable seating area supplying snacks, hot drinks, licensed bar & a toilet!

The Boat has a maximum capacity of 60 passengers & is MCA licensed and insured.

A timetable of public sailings from May to September can be found on our website

www.maritimecruises.co.uk

For bookings and enquiries phone 01205 460595.

Private charter hire is available from April to October and is ideal for birthday parties, anniversaries and social events. A range of catering options are available.

All Cruises embark & disembark at The Sluice Bridge near Tattershall Road, Boston

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LEISURE

Maritime CRUISES

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Ideal for Parties

We give EVERYONE the opportunity to enjoy the waterways

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Arches • Weather Vanes

01205 260634
07979572857

WE'VE GOT A GOOD GUY IN OUR MIDST!

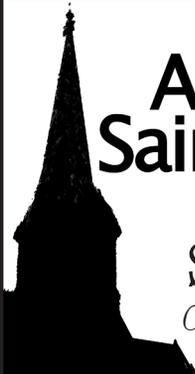
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SUNDAY 31ST MARCH
CELEBRATION OF EASTER SUNDAY
HOLY COMMUNION - 9.30 AM

SUNDAY 7TH APRIL - HOLY COMMUNION - 9.30 AM
SUNDAY 21ST APRIL - HOLY COMMUNION - 9.30 AM

*OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS ARE WITH JON TOFTS AND HIS FAMILY AT THIS DIFFICULT TIME.
 PER ASPERA AD ASTRA. PAX VOBISCU.*



DIOCESE OF LINCOLN
 THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

LETTER TO THE PARISH - April



I'm writing this letter to you in the springtime. A feature of parish magazines at this time of year is often an article – like this one - which speaks about spring being a time of new growth, and the obvious associations with the hope of resurrection and new life which we will celebrate in our churches at Easter. There are obvious reasons for that, not least that as we emerge from another cold and wet winter, we marvel that anything could possibly grow in the hard ground and in the harsh weather conditions known to those of us who live in the Diocese of Lincoln!

And yet, they do: in gardens all across the Diocese, brave snowdrops have cheered our spirits, and crocuses and daffodils are now providing wonderful carpets of colour.

These flowers are a visible sign of hope in a world where that can sometimes be in short supply. As we prepare to celebrate the glorious feast of Easter, we know that there are times in life when the pain of Good Friday seems more enduring than the joy and the hope of Easter. That's when I try to remember the flowers, because no matter how unlikely it seems, they're able to grow in the cold, hard ground. They're a sign that God can take an apparently hopeless situation and transform it in the most unexpected of ways.

That's a key message of Easter: when things seemed utterly hopeless and lost, God did something completely unexpected which transformed the life of the world for ever. In the resurrection of his Son, Jesus Christ, he offers that same possibility of transformation and new life to each one of us.

May God bless you, and all those you love this Easter.
 The Rt Revd Christopher Lowson
 The Bishop of Lincoln

Priest-in-charge:
Fr Gary Morgan
 The Vicarage
 Penny Gardens
 Kirton
 PE20 1HN
 722380
 fathergaz@yahoo.co.uk

Wardens:
Jon 260672
Terry 260408
<http://lincoln.ourchurchweb.org.uk/fosdykeallsaints/>

Hire the
VILLAGE HALL
 for a
Family Celebration
 or a
Children's Party
 with room for
 a bouncy castle

Ring for price
Alan on 260654

READER'S REMARKS

As a resident who has lived in the village all my life I am concerned about the state of the Green Lane (for new members of the village this is the walkway through from Bell Lane to Wash Road) [Editor: And a part of the County Council's road network according to the signs!]. The entrance from the Bell Lane end is all mud and it looks as if a tractor has used this route, making some deep ruts in places. From half way down to Wash Road there isn't a problem, I think mainly because there are dykes on either side so the farmers cannot cut across to each field.

I know the weather has been appalling recently and the farmers have a job to do, but is it necessary to make such a mess? Especially when Green Lane is not the entrance to the fields, it just makes it easier for them, one entrance being at the side of the drain in Bell Lane and the other off Wash Road. Even though there are no trees or flowers to look at, the Green Lane

is a good safe place for people to walk and also for walking their dogs as there is no worry of traffic, but the way it is at the moment you have to negotiate the slippery mud and avoid tripping in the ruts.

It would be interesting to hear what other residents think about the farmers' use of this village amenity. Are you concerned, should we let them carry on?

Pantomime

Loads of offers of help with the proposed pantomime and the cast virtually set - even two volunteers for Daisy May the Cow!

If you would still like to help in some way please ring Liz on 260275. We're also looking for emulsion paint (any colours, not white) for props and backdrops, so if you have any tins in good condition that you haven't a use for any more your donations would be welcome. Give Liz a call first.

If you can't help put this date in your diary: Saturday, 28 December, 3 pm with a break in the middle for tea and cakes at the Village Hall.

Getting there...

Representatives from Mayflower hand over their £250 cheque towards the new swings to Terry Martin, Chairman of the Playing Field committee. From left to right Bill Andsworth, John Fitchet, Stan Walters, Mary Chambers, Sam Towell, Denis Glen, Terry Martin and Martin Pitt.



Councillor Mike Brookes from Boston Borough Council hands over their £500 cheque towards the swings to Denis Glen, Treasurer of the Playing Field committee. From left to right: Martin Pitt, Chloe Maltby, Shellby Read, Denis Glen, Karen Pitt and Cllr Mike Brookes.

fosdyrectory

These listings help to keep the Fosdyke Newsletter delivered to your door monthly. Remember: Fosdyke First!

Daisy Tinks Stitches

Handmade loveliness and general textile repairs (hems up, buttons on etc).
Angela Gould
 angieilm@hotmail.com
www.facebook.com/DaisyTinksStitches12

The Moorings Cafe

01205 260348 www.themoorings-cafe.co.uk
Chris and Gillian Davison
EM Faustus Publications
 Freelance Author / proof reading
Chris Davison 01205 260348 www.emfaustus.com

BHSAI (Reg'd) Freelance Riding Instructor Teaching all levels

Arena Hire, Horse Owner Certificate Courses.
Claire Burrow, BHSAI(Reg'd)
 07711642247 01205 260232
claireburrow@yahoo.com www.sunsetsql.com/riding

John Burdall Body Repairs

Car body repairs
 01205 260484
 and you will have the occasional joke

Boat repairs/Marina Fosdyke Yacht Haven

David Parkinson
<http://www.fosdykeyachthaven.co.uk>
 01205 260240

Computer Services

Euro-Tech Innovations
Steve Ingamells
 07852 660929
sales@et-innovations.com

Painting and Decorating

Wright Choice Decorating
Paul Wright
 01205 260497 07886 378734

Reiki for people, pets and horses

A gentle holistic therapy to bring mind and bod back into balance.
Claire Burrow, Reiki Master/Teacher
 07711642247 01205 260232
claireburrow@yahoo.com <http://www.sunsetsql.com/reiki/>

Neighbourhood Policing Team

01205 722002
 Jonathan Thornton 07944 776733
jonathan.thornton@lincs.pnn.police.uk
 Neil Williams 07939 886327
neil.williams@lincs.pnn.police.uk

Advertise your product or service

for just £12 a year
 Contact Terry
 01205 260275 or email terry@fosdyke.org.uk

Dog walking/animal care

Patter Paws
Belinda Needham
 07795 160898
www.patter-paws.co.uk

David Wallder Gardening Services

David Wallder
 01205 260535 07752792774
gardendave@hotmail.co.uk

A Complete Coaching for Confidence Service

Life Coaching, NLP, Hypnosis, Creating Your Future Techniques™
Claire Burrow, NLP Coach
 07711642247 01205 260232
claireburrow@yahoo.com www.cloud9nlpcoaching.com

PA, Sound Equipment and DIY Disco Hire

Ambient Sound Hire/Sales
Tom O'Malley
 01205 260611 07973 789790
www.ambientsound.co.uk

Hypnotherapy Services

Pain, stress and anxiety relief. Help give up habits.
 Pain-free childbirth!
James Cobb, BSc, Dip Hyp.BSCH
 01205 260254 07999802426
JamescobbBSCH@aol.com

PA, Sound Equipment and DIY Disco Hire

Ambient Sound Hire/Sales
Tom O'Malley
 01205 260611 07973 789790
www.ambientsound.co.uk

BB Poultry Supplies

Suppliers of all types of New Poultry Drinkers/Feeders
 Chicken Health Care products, inc (Red Mite treatments)
Phone Terry
 on 07980 411174 or 01205 260253 office hours
email Terryjbeebe22@btinternet.com

Abigal's Home Care Cleaning and Ironing Services

Established 2002
 01205 260253 or 07581 038537
 office hours

David Walder's GREEN TIPS

Hopefully, by now it should feel more like Spring with daffodils in flower and blossom on the trees. Expect April showers, but a bit more sun and rising temperatures make it perfect gardening weather.

It is the time to sow new lawns or repair bare patches. If the soil is too wet or cold, germination will be poor, so wait until the weather has improved. Prepare the soil for sowing by digging it over, levelling and firming up and crumbling any big lumps with the back of a rake. This is also a good time to remove stones from the soil, if you are unlucky enough to have some, the soil in Fosdyke is fairly stone free. Do not walk over or mow the newly sown grass until it has reached at least 2 inches and then only give it a light trim at the highest setting.

After the last couple of hard winters there has been a lot of frost damage to shrubs and now is the best time to assess the harm done and take action. At the time of writing there is still snow on the ground, but by April you should be able to tell where there is new growth and if there are any dead branches. For example, Ceonothus may start sprouting at the base of the branches even though they may otherwise appear to be dead. Prune these branches back to healthy wood.

While you are pruning shrubs keep an eye out for reversion; to green in the case of variegated shrubs or upright growth on a weeping variety. This needs to be cut out before spreading to the rest of the shrub.

If you'd like to advertise in the fosdyrectory (starting at just £12 for a full year - 12 issues) and 'do your bit' to keep the Fosdyke Newsletter running contact Terry on 260275 or email terry@fosdyke.org.uk. Enquire for larger advert rates.

Open Mic night



The last Open Mic Night on Saturday, 2 March, featured more acts from the village than usual. Tom O'Malley, who advertises in the Fosdyrectory (with a Fosdyke First tick), brought along Kevin who both play in the **Fotyfivers** to give us some classic new wave/punk tunes.

Also making their first appearance were three from **Much Too Young** who will soon be playing at the Sleaford Music Festival. Their drummer came down from Skegness in February to check us out.

Jason has become a popular regular, playing both solo and with other acts and we mustn't forget the residents, **Kiya Brown** and **The Unrehearsed**.

Due to a private function at the beginning of April the next Open Mic night will be on Saturday, 4 May. Who's going to be there? Well, we know that The Unrehearsed and Kiya Brown will always be there, but what other musical gems will be appearing? Come along and find out!.

Doors open at 7.30 with music starting at 8.30. Free live entertainment in the village? What other parish can boast that?



The Unrehearsed did their bit for Comic Relief in Boston on Friday 15 March at The Eagle's Red Nose Open Mic Night, which raised £230.

FOSDYKE SOCIAL CLUB



Gather ye tractors

The Vintage to Classic Tractor Road Run and Fun Day is back again on Sunday 12 May at the Fosdyke Social Club and Playing Field.

Last year it raised an impressive £3,412.23 with the tractor run, raffles, donations and sponsorship for Macmillan Cancer Support. They had seventy-four entries last year and are hoping to reach a hundred this year.

Since 2006 the event has raised a very impressive £21,800.94 for Macmillan. So here's another date in your diary. There's usually lots of things going on, a barbeque and the bar is open so it would be great if you could support the event and help Russell Nicol raise even more for this worthy cause.



but not in April!

fosdyke fact or fiction

Can you tell when you're out
of invisible ink?

FOSDYKE SOCIAL CLUB

You can 'try the club out' before you commit to a membership but at just £3.50 a year or £6 for a family of four it's a great deal, entitling you to a reduction on all events held at the club. You can pay at the club or contact Terry on 260275 and he'll sort out your membership card or Jane on 260455 for tickets for events other inquiries.

APRIL

Saturday, 13th
Steve Carmel

50's, 60's, rock'n'roll & country singer

£4 for members

£4.50 for non-members

Saturday, 20th

Bingo

7.30 pm for 8 pm start

£1 a book

Saturday, 27th

Quiz Night

with fish, scampi or chicken & chips supper

7.30 pm for 8 pm start

£5 for members

£5.50 for non-members

MAY

Saturday, 4th

Open Mic Night

7.30 pm for 8.30 pm start

FREE LIVE MUSIC!

Check the noticeboard outside the club
or the Club's Facebook page for other
future events.

fosdyke fact or fiction

Can you ever be sure what a
deserted area looks like?

FOSDYKE PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council, Mrs. W. DePear, Ferry House, Old Inn Lane,
Fosdyke Bridge, Boston, Lincs PE20 2DE
01205 260609

Councillor Martin Pitt (Chairman) Tel. 01205 260378

Councillor John Cropley (Vice Chairman) Tel. 01205 260226

Councilor Denis Glenn Tel. 01205 260615

Councillor Mrs. Ann Yates Tel. 01205 260214

Councillor Pete Ulyatt Tel. 01205 260220

BOSTON BOROUGH COUNCILLORS for FOSDYKE

Councillor Aaron Spencer Tel. 01205 460394

Councillor David Witts Tel. 07929 717846

LINCOLNSHIRE COUNTY COUNCILLOR for FOSDYKE

Councillor Mike Brookes Tel. 01205 820616

50'S

60'S

70'S

STEVE CARMEL

BUDDY HOLLY

BILLY FURY

ROY ORBISON

ELVIS

Saturday 13 April

FOSDYKE

SOCIAL CLUB

Members £4

Non-members £4.50

We're in the final!

Fosdyke FC 4 V 3 Sutterton FC

As the snow fell on a bitterly cold day Fosdyke edged out Sutterton 4-3 in a Challenge Cup semi final thriller and now move on to the final against Coningsby at Boston Town's ground some time in May.

Fosdyke began a mile away from their hard-working visitors who looked to have taken the lead when their opener was disallowed for offside. Controversy followed at the other end when a clearly up-ended James Munn was left baffled as to why he wasn't awarded a spot kick.

The deadlock was finally broken when Fosdyke's Matt Howden slid in at the near post to guide home the ball at the end of a smart passing move that began way back in their own half. Sutterton roared back and a penalty was coolly dispatched before the same player shook off his markers and fired home from inside the box to give the visitors a deserved lead.

The initiative swung once more however when the relentless Ruslan Dukalskis fired a cross in to the six yard box. The Sutterton full back inexplicably volleyed the ball in to his own net!

An incredible crossfield ball from the Latvian wing-wizard Dukalskis found the run of Tom Watson who went on to bravely nip in front of the advancing keeper and lob him

to give the home side a 3-2 advantage at the break.

The second half began with Sutterton back in it - a big lumped-up-top goal kick was allowed to bounce, not once, but twice and as Fosdykes defence hesitated the Sutterton target man didn't. 3-3.

By now the snow was thick, the pitch was getting muddier by the minute and it was going to come down to either a mistake by tired legs or something out of the ordinary ... it was the latter. Matt Howden somehow managed to curl the ball in to the far corner of the net from virtually the corner flag. What made it even more impressive was he struck the ball with his shin pad! Whatever ... it went in. A great save from Sam Leafe at the feet of the striker was Sutterton's last effort and as the final minuets beckoned it was Fosdyke who finished much the stronger as the visitors tired. A great game well-reffed by Mick Grant.

Man of the Match - Matt Howden - constant hard work and a quite incredible strike to win it for Fosdyke.

FOSDYKE SPORT

Wigtoft & District
Pool Leagues

Both Mike Walls and David Bristow have been knocked out of the Sunday Cups they were in but the Sunday team is still near the top of the league. On Wednesdays the A team players can hold their heads high - as can the B team, just they rarely win!

SUNDAY

24 February

Black Bull 0 v Fosdyke 5

3 March

Fosdyke 4 v Black Bull 1

Fosdyke Sports 5 v The Qurrn B 0

10 February:

Hammer & Pincer B 2 v Fosdyke 3

	Played	Won	Lost	Pnts
Kirton Leisure B	16	12	4	56
Fosdyke Sports	15	11	4	53
Sportsman	12	12	0	46
Hammer & Pincer A	16	12	4	46
Kirton Leisure A	15	10	5	44
Golden Fleece	14	7	7	40
Black Bull	13	4	9	27
Hammer & Pincer B	16	2	14	27
Wheatsheaf	13	5	8	24
Queen A	14	2	12	16
Queen B	14	2	12	16

WEDNESDAY

27 February

Fosdyke B 1 Golden Fleece A 4

Golden Fleece B 2 v Fosdyke A 3

13 March

Kirton Leisure 5 v Fosdyke B 0

20 March

Sportsman 1 v Fosdyke A

Fosdyke B 1 v Pincushion A 4

	Played	Won	Lost	Pnts
Sportsman	11	11	0	48
Golden Fleece A	11	10	1	45
Fosdyke Sports A	12	8	4	36
Golden Fleece B	12	7	5	31
Pincushion A	12	7	5	28
Kirton Leisure	11	4	7	27
Pincushion B	12	4	8	24
The Queen	11	0	11	11
Fosdyke Sports B	12	1	11	10

Goodfellowship Bowls Club

Open Day

Sunday, 21 April

1 pm

Never played? Have a go.

Bowls available to borrow.

Wear flat-soled shoes or slip on overshoes.

Looking for a small friendly bowls club? Look no further.

Sue: 01205 460305

fosdyke
fact or fiction

The shin is a device for finding furniture in the dark.

FOSDYKE GALA DAY

MEETING TO BE HELD AT 7.30 PM ON FRIDAY 12 APRIL AT THE SOCIAL CLUB.
ANY IDEAS? PLEASE COME ALONG, WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT!

GIZZA LIFT!

Ryan McMeechan's regular lift to work in the morning has fallen through at short notice so he wondered if anyone in the village would be happy for him to "fuelshare" and willing to give him a lift if he pays a share of the petrol.

He works at the Volkswagen garage in Boston on the A16, next door to the Spirit Of Endeavour pub and is looking for a lift on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday mornings (no evenings needed) and has to be at work for 8.30am. If it meant him getting there 30 mins or so early that would still be fine. Ring 260519 if you can help.

{Editor: Ryan's a good lad, he's a part of the Wednesday evening pools 'B' team and went to Boston Grammar School so he's polite and well-behaved!}

Totally teddy

Margaret Johnson and Karen Britchford (sorry, I got the wrong Karen last time!) were really pleased with the response for unwanted cuddly toys. So a big thank you to those who dropped off sacks of them! Just to remind you, Margaret and Karen will be manning a cuddly toy stall at this years Tractor Rally on Sunday, 12 May, to raise funds to contribute towards the new swings. So if you have any teddies or the like lurking around your home that are in good

condition and that you'd be happy to donate please ring Jane on 260455 or drop them off at the social club during opening hours. Thank you.

Oil together now

Richard Lilley from 66 Bell Lane has had a few calls about the consortium. If you're interested in saving a few pennies then joining this might just achieve your wishes.

The Fosdyke Playing Field

Registered Charity Number: 512600

Aims & Objectives:

Recreation ground for the benefit of the inhabitants of the Parish of Fosdyke.

Denis Glenn 260615

FOSDYKE SOCIAL CLUB

Jane Bristow 260455

The Social Club currently opens on
Wednesday at 7.30 pm

Friday at 8 pm

Saturday at 3 pm

(when football club first team is playing
at home)

& 7.30 pm

Sunday at 7.30 pm

(when pool team is playing at home)

The committee regularly reviews these
opening times and if demand was good
would open at additional
times.

VILLAGE HALL

BINGO NIGHT

Every Monday

Doors open 6.30 pm

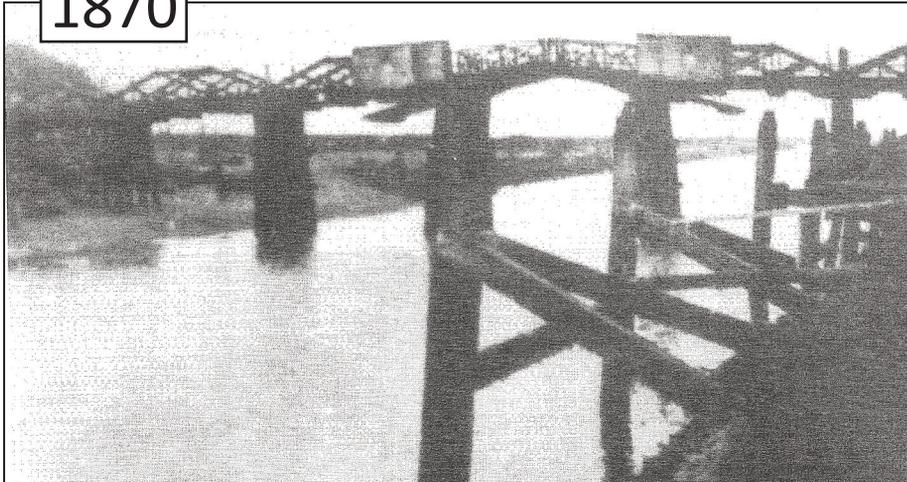
Eyes down at 7.30 pm

Alan (260654) will find you a seat!

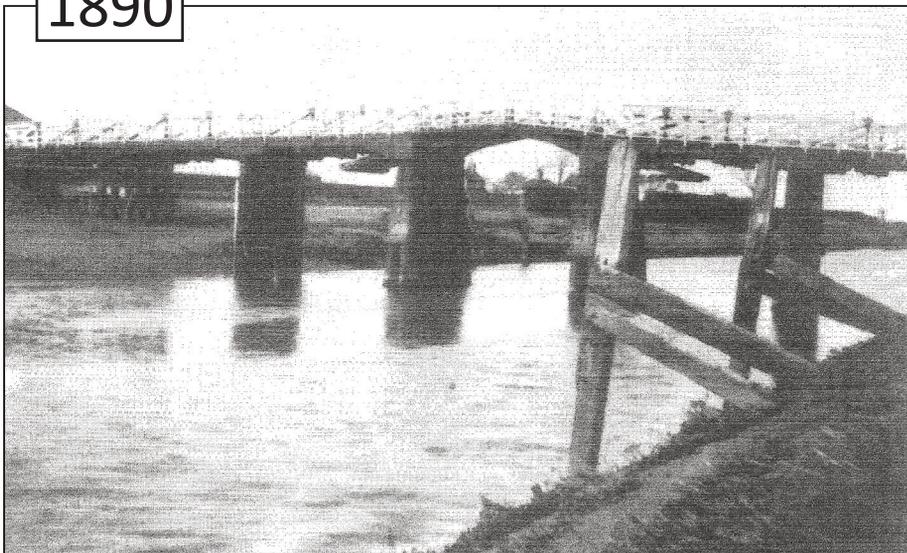
A brief history of Fosdyke Bridge

When was the first Fosdyke Bridge built? According to research by Michael J Elsdon in his book *Aspects of Spalding Villages* the first bridge was open for public use in 1815. The three photos below are taken from his book. Apparently a committee was formed with Sir Joseph Banks as its chairman with the intention of obtaining an Act of Parliament for building a bridge across the River Welland at Fosdyke.

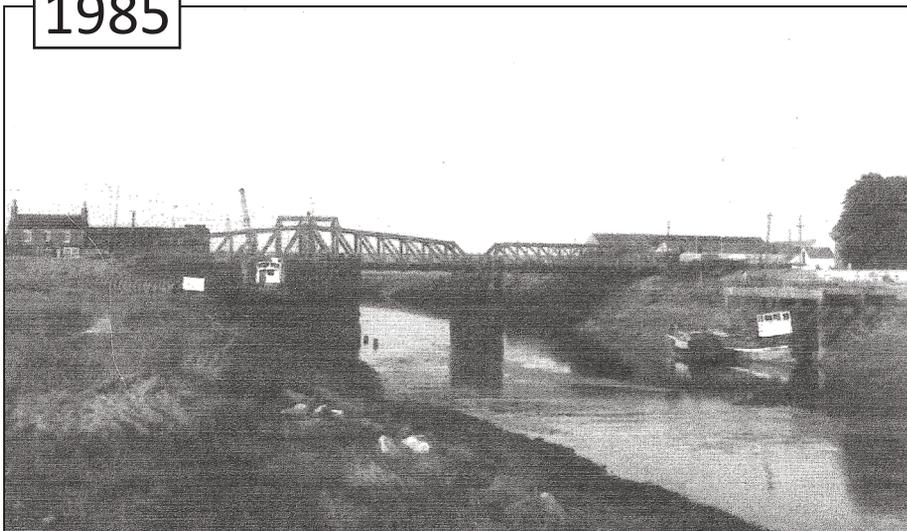
1870



1890



1985



The first design, by a Mr Rennie, was a drawbridge 265 feet wide with a road width of 22 feet. The cost in English Oak was estimated to be £7,000 with a further £3,500 to build an embankment and causeway along the marsh. The total cost rose to £12,000 when factoring in the expense of obtaining the Bill. When granted the contract was given to Messrs Pacey and Colly of Boston with a completion date of 1813. One wonders if there was a delay clause in those days!

The Bridge was built on 18-inch diameter oak piles driven into the bed of the river, with some of them being 42 feet long. There were three openings of 30 feet, two of 29 feet and three of 27 feet creating 229 feet of waterway. A rack and pinion system was used to raise the two central sections to allow shipping to pass through.

The upkeep of the bridge was down to the Fosdyke Bridge Company which raised revenue by charging a toll. Major repairs were needed by 1836 and it was closed to traffic in 1868 and the drawbridge left open for vessels. After the bridge was taken over by the county in 1870 the bridge was reopened after extensive repairs. The tolls were eventually abolished in 1890.

In 1907 a proposal was put forward to erect a new bridge because of the condition of the wooden one, and on 31 March 1911 a new iron bridge was opened costing around £17,000. Traffic lights were later used on this bridge as it was only capable of taking a single lane.

The present concrete bridge was built to accommodate the needs of modern traffic and opened in 1990.



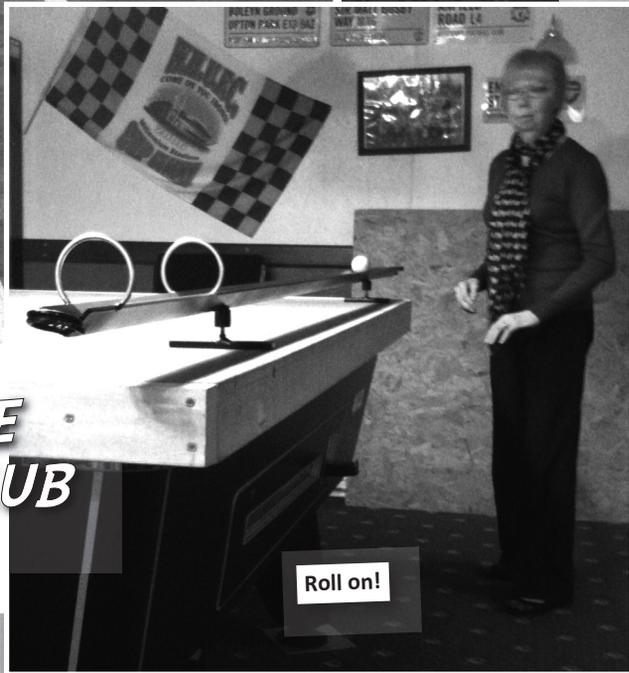
I walk the line ...



It'll never fit in the little one...

THE CUBE

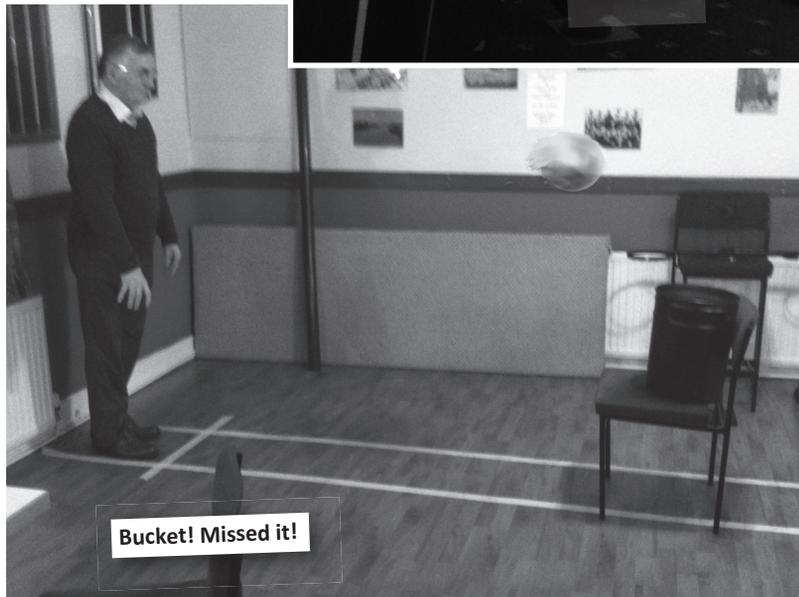
The Cube made its second appearance at the Social Club on Saturday 9 March thanks to Ronnie Wick's imaginative and creative games, where skill, spacial awareness, balance and aim were needed to do well in the trials. A fun evening was had by all. Terry Martin eventually walked away with the title and £11 winnings.



Roll on!



Balance the ball



Bucket! Missed it!

FOSDYKE SOCIAL CLUB

GILLIAN AND CHRIS DAVISON

You might not have been into The Mooring's Café. Not if you live in Fosdyke. Why would you? It's on your doorstep. If you want a coffee you'd be as likely to stick the kettle on at home as walk along to 'the café in the layby'.

But you'd be missing a treat.

Gillian and Chris took over The Mooring's Café in November 2007, precisely when the recession hit. Not necessarily a good start... however they're still going strong.

Gillian began her working life as a hairdresser, back in the days when you did an apprenticeship that didn't revolve around jokes about Allan Sugar. Since then she's done everything from waitressing to packing sausages: she's delivered the post wearing leathers on a 200cc motorcycle and taught Literacy and Numeracy, but not on a motorbike, though she did drive an MGBGT to get to her students. Now she owns and runs the café with her husband Chris, while editing and proof reading his books.

Chris has done everything from giving benefits advice to running an arts centre for people with learning difficulties. Now, he cooks and writes novels. With a background as boring as that... he's also been a shark wrangler, alligator wrestler, made giant puppets, danced with the Royal Ballet, directed plays, been a fire breather and is still one of the few historical venereologists in the world. Only three of those things are total lies.

Oh. And he writes books.

At the end of the day, Gillian and Chris moved to Fosdyke to run a business, so recession or not, they got on with it, working hard and building on the best the business had to offer.... breakfasts. After all, when you're a breakfast café, the idea is that you do a damn good breakfast. So, they asked the customers what they wanted. It turned out that they wanted better quality bacon, sausage and egg than they'd been getting, so they bought in better. Customers wanted more choice. So they gave

more dining options. Customers wanted them to open on Sundays, so they did and still do.

Through meeting the customers' requests the end result is that they are not just ticking over, as previous owners had, but are making decent profits, which have been ploughed back in to the business to improve customer satisfaction and raise turn over.

And when some customers wanted a large scale TV with Sky as standard, they immediately leapt into action, with Gillian politely saying 'No.'

Chris just stood there laughing until they sat down.

Four questions seem to dominate the customers' minds when they call by the café.

- 1) Where's the toilet?
- 2) How do I get to Baytree Garden Centre?
- 3) Can I have toast instead of fried bread?
- 4) Did I leave my wallet/walking stick/umbrella/hat and /or coat/or teeth behind last week?

How I wish I was making this up.

The answers to all are the same each time. There. Up there and turn left. Yes and No (usually).

Customers though, normally just want to get something to eat in comfortable surroundings and leave, feeling slightly fuller and calmer than when they arrived. Gillian and Chris try to make this happen.

And when they're not working?

Gillian is learning to play the harp, perpetrates Demolition Gardening and taking in dogs that have been abused and used as punch-bags which she turns into cuddle monsters. She spends a lot of time asking Chris 'What does this word mean? I can't find it in any

foslite
people
spotlight

dictionary'. Then hearing those magic words 'I made it up.' She spends plenty of time giving no sympathy whatsoever to Chris when he manages to injure himself doing the simplest of tasks. She also is an active member of the Guerrilla DIY Movement. Frequently Chris has walked into their home to find a wall repainted, plastered, or simply gone. Bit strange when it's the bathroom wall.

Chris spends far too much time in his own head, coming up with plots, gags and scenarios for his novels. Frankly, that's the safest place for him. He is the unofficial president of the Extremely Dangerous Un-sports Club. He is beyond accident prone. In learning to ride a bicycle in the layby, he ended up face first in the dyke with cracked ribs. He's been known to accidentally nail his own hand to a wall, just by turning around. Recently, he put his back out by yawning. He is also known internationally as the author of the 'EM Faustus- Private Eye novels, short stories and poems about serious illness.'

So if you fancy a breakfast you don't have to cook, or just a cuppa you don't have to steep yourself pop in and see them. Good food and left to yourselves to eat it, unless you want to chat. Either way, they're friendly and the food is tasty. And the Homemade cakes are just that, made by Gillian, at home.

Open 6:30am to 2:30pm most days, bar Sundays when it's 10:00am till 2:00pm. But Wednesdays... Ah, they are special days. It's their day off and they close.

Everyone's allowed a life.

Fire!

If you need to burn rubbish during the day please consider your neighbours. Better still, do it at night when everyone's washing is indoors!

ARGUING THE POINT

I'd just like to thank everyone for their kind words regarding the Fosdyke Newsletter. Touch wood, I've not upset anyone yet, and I've no intention of doing that, but just in case I do, apologies in advance!

We all have different views and opinions (wouldn't it be a boring world if we didn't) and tolerance can often be difficult to maintain when pig-headed people (no irony intended) just can't see the other side of the argument, so don't be shy about making suggestions that affect, or could affect, the village. It's your home, you care. See below.

Fosdyke Newsletter

Contribute

Got a bit of news? Send it to the editor:

Preferably via

terry@fosdyke.org.uk

or phone me on

260275

or knock on the door or post your info through the letter box at:

6 Whitecross Gate

**Deadline
for May issue
15 April**

VILLAGE HALL

250 Draw

Drawn every second Monday of the month at the

BINGO Sessions in the **VILLAGE HALL**.

If you would like to join the **250 Club**
Ring Alan on 260654

March Draw

150	Mr A Sands	Fosdyke	£10
136	Mrs D Glen	Fosdyke	£10
218	Mr R Johnson	c/o Fosdyke	£10
13	Mr K Crawford	Sutterton	£10
131	Mrs L Laud	M S E	£15
30	Mrs B Twigg	Holbeach	£20
66	Mrs J Thompson	Bicker	£25

Next draw: Monday 8 April, 2013, at the Bingo evening.

Placecheck public meeting for residents of the Five Villages Ward

Opportunity to meet with service providers

Share your views and experiences of living in your village and see how you could become more involved in shaping how services are delivered in your community.

Monday 8th April 2013

Sutterton Village Hall

Two sessions – 2pm until 4pm and 5pm until 7pm

Register to attend by contacting either: Maddy Eyre on (01205) 314340 or maddy.eyre@boston.gov.uk or Mandy Exley on 07949 541873 or mandy.e@lincolnshirecvs.org.uk

Some of the service providers that will be there:

Lincolnshire County Council highways
Lincolnshire County Council Rural Transport
Lincolnshire Police
Boston Borough Council cleansing
Citizens Advice Bureau
Boston Borough Council Community Safety
AgeUK Boston and South Holland
Sutterton Parish Council

