

Stamford TOWN COUNCIL NEWS

Issue 24 Winter/Spring 2017



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**PLEASE
TAKE YOUR
FREE
COPY**

Stamford Christmas Festival & Light Switch on

2016 was another successful year for the increasingly popular Christmas Festival.

People flocked from miles around to the Market Stalls in the High St, Broad St and Ironmonger St.

The Children were entertained with the Fayre Rides in the Sheep Market, Punch & Judy in the Square and Santa's Grotto and Live Reindeer on Broad Street.

The Stage was also positioned by All Saints' Church where many went to watch various different performers that were on throughout the day.

As evening fell everyone congregated in the square waiting for Santa on his sleigh, accompanied by The Mayor Councillor John Dawson and his two helpers, who switched on the Christmas lights. The



magnificent tree was kindly donated by Burghley House Trust and placed in position by RAF Wittering

Stamford Hospital heralds new era of patient care

Stamford Hospital took delivery of a brand new MRI scanner on Sunday 8 January which means Stamford residents can now attend appointments closer to home. The service began on 1 February, and the diagnostic team expect to scan between 20 and 30 patients a day.

Susan Brooks, Stamford Hospital's Matron and Site Manager, said: "Arrival of the MRI scanner heralds a new era of patient care at Stamford Hospital. We expect around 8,000 more patients a year will benefit from the enhanced service. The scanner forms part of the redevelopment programme

which started in December. When the works finish in July, we will be able to provide even more treatments for local patients from a hospital that is better equipped to serve the needs of the community."



The scanner was delivered onto the Stamford Hospital site by crane via Morrisons' car park on Sunday 8 Jan.

The fully installed MRI scanner is housed in its own building within the diagnostic imaging department.



For further information on any items please contact the Town Clerk
T:- 01780 753808 E:- townhall@stamfordtowncouncil.gov.uk
www.stamfordtowncouncil.gov.uk  @stamfordtc



Stamford50 Commemoration

Planning for the Stamford50 commemoration is well advanced, with a programme of activities in prospect from the beginning of June leading up to the Georgian Festival 21-24 September. More details in the next Newsletter.

The question "Why Stamford" has been asked, so a little history. By the 1960s, the impact of the car was impacting on Stamford, in common with other towns. Added to this were the disappearance of family businesses, the loss of residents from the town centre and the expansion of Peterborough.

In 1963 the Deputy Planning Officer of Kesteven County Council (KCC), Dr. K.R. Fennell, produced a report "The Preservation of Buildings of Special Architectural and Historical Interest in Central Stamford" in which he pointed out that half of Lincolnshire's listed buildings were in Stamford and that maintaining them should be a matter of not just local but national concern. He suggested that an overall policy to protect these buildings would be a better approach than the then ad hoc system of considering planning matters on an individual basis. KCC agreed that the matter was urgent and discussions should be entered into as a matter of urgency with the Ministry of Housing and Local Government. Dr. Fennell prepared a further report in 1966 "Stamford - Buildings of special Architectural and Historic interest", which proved to be the most important document written about Stamford within living memory.

By great good fortune (or Dr. Fennell's commendable prescience), the government of the day was preparing to carry out four pilot studies of historic towns - Bath, York, Chichester and King's Lynn - but, as all the preparatory work had been done in Stamford, Dr. Fennell commended his study to the Ministry which, realising it would cost less, jumped at the chance to designate central Stamford as England's first conservation area in 1967.

(Edited from an article supplied by Stamford Civic Society)



YOUR COUNCIL NEEDS YOU!

A civic parade is one of the great highlights of the social calendar in any town or city, during the course of each year Stamford holds parades for

- Royal Visits
- Mayoral Installations
- Military Welcomes
- Remembrance Day Parade
- Battle of Britain Parade

The continued support of organisations such as cadets, guides, cubs etc is both acknowledged and appreciated and serves to uphold the traditions of the town.

Are you involved in an organisation or group (no matter how big or small) that would like to be part of such notable civic events?

If so, we would be delighted to hear from you.

Please contact: **Mark Murtagh (Civic Officer)**

**Stamford Town Hall,
St Mary's Hill, Stamford, PE9 2DR
01780 753808**



Town Trail

The recently updated Town Trail, which takes you through Stamford exploring passageways, main thoroughfares and market squares, is now available from the Tourist Information Centre in the Arts Centre - a building that is well worth a visit in its own right. Built in 1768 it is one of the oldest provincial theatres in England, which holds many events throughout the year. Website: <https://www.stamfordartscentre.com>



Lincolnshire Police Recruiting Volunteers

We are recruiting for volunteers for a community project helping vulnerable people in your area, if you are interested please contact:

**The Volunteer Team
volunteers@lincs.pnn.police.uk
Tel: (01522) 947244**



Town Hall Hire

Stamford Town Hall is the ideal venue for a variety of events; there are a number of rooms available for private or company hire ranging from small meeting rooms up to the beautifully restored Court Room for an impressive reception or a sit down dinner.



After a major renovation programme, (including the provision of a lift) this splendid Grade 1 listed building retains its history but is

firmly in the 21st century with a state of the art finishing kitchen, audio & video facilities and Wi-Fi capability. We can accommodate conferences, seminars, business meetings, training courses, business lunches, educational groups etc. Coffee and tea are available throughout the day, ensuring interruption-free meetings.

In addition, the building houses the Town's charters, civic plate and regalia, some of which date back to the 15th century. This collection is one of the most impressive in the country and a private tour could be incorporated within the hire.

COURT ROOM: Holds up to 80 persons seated

COUNCIL CHAMBER: Holds up to 35-40 people seated

MALCOLM SARGENT ROOM: Hold up to 16-20 people seated

ROBING ROOM: Holds up to 6 people seated

For more information please visit our website

www.stamfordtowncouncil.gov.uk

or call Mark Murtagh, (Civic Officer) to discuss your requirements. T:- 01780 753808

Stamford Town Council Planning Committee

The Stamford Town Council Planning Committee meets once a month on Tuesdays at 7pm in the Town Hall. Members of the public are encouraged to attend, and speak for or against planning proposals before the meeting officially begins. Planning applications may be viewed online on the South Kesteven District Council website

<http://www.southkesteven.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=8170>,

or for those without computer access, at the SKDC office in Maiden Lane. The chairman of the committee, Councillor Breda Griffin, tries to visit all the proposed sites and reports back to the committee. These visits are especially important in the Conservation Area in order to maintain its integrity, especially so this year, which is Stamford's 50th anniversary as the first Conservation Town.

Contact your local council -



and report community problems ...like potholes, broken street lights, fly-tipping, litter, and dog fouling.

Please use the link below to report any complaints or matters regarding any street, lighting, fly tipping matter.

<https://www.fixmystreet.com/>

Reminder - it automatically contacts the relevant local authority, so you don't have to send another notification to LCC/SKDC

Senior Citizen's Concert Friday 7 April

Please come along and join us to celebrate Dame Vera Lynn's 100th Birthday.

Call at the Town Hall to get your **FREE** tickets for the concert.

(The ticket will be required for entry on the evening).



Sustainable Stamford's BRIGHT GREEN ENERGY SHOW



Stamford Art Centre Gallery
Friday March 17th and
Saturday March 18th 2017.

Now in its second year. Admission free to all events.

Come and find out how to use less energy, save money, live more sustainably, and help to improve your environment.

The show combines an exhibition and evening events looking at energy saving measures and renewable technologies. Specialist local businesses will be on hand to offer valuable advice.

Royal Arms Rescued

Two copies of the Royal Arms (each approx. 5' wide by 6' high) in terracotta brick were made by Williamson Cliff. One was installed at Royal Ascot racecourse and the "spare" was built in to the office wall on the Little Casterton Rd. site. When the brickyard buildings were demolished, Chris Neal rescued the pieces of the Royal Arms and took them to Bourne for safe-keeping, where they remained under a hedge for several years (photo' 1).



photo' 1



photo' 2

When Chris heard that STC was interested in the Arms, he immediately offered to return them to Stamford. The pieces were collected by New College in one of their vans (photo' 2) and taken to their building department (then in Gwash Way) where, once the moss and earth had been removed, they were

pressure-washed (photo' 3).

The Arms are now ready for installation, with a stone surround, on the paved area, owned by STC, at the bottom of Castle Dyke. The work, part of a refurbishment programme, will be carried out as soon as the requisite planning permission has been obtained from SKDC.



photo' 3

Book reading people for the visually impaired

A book 'reading' group for visually impaired people (vip's) needs new members. The group meets every month to discuss a selected book they have listened to on a disk which is provided. A new disk is then collected before leaving/at the end of meeting/session. The disks chosen are based on discussions about members' favourite authors and books.

Meetings bring together a small number of people with sight problems who are also able to discuss in a friendly atmosphere their difficulties and possible solutions/answers over a cup of coffee or tea during the early part of the meeting.

The group meets on the first Thursday of each month at Stamford Town Hall, beginning at around 10.30 a.m. until 12 noon.

If you are interested or would like further details, please contact Tony Barry on **01780 751 820**.

Proposed Kier development on the north side of Kettering road

A number of Stamford residents travelled to Grantham to attend the meeting of SKDC's Development control Committee on 7 Feb, at which the proposed development was discussed. Ten spoke against the proposal, citing objections based on a range of material planning considerations.

After much discussion, lasting over 3 hours, the proposal went to a recorded vote (which itself was subject to considerable debate) and was rejected by all 14 of the committee members present.

Empingham Clock

The plan to put the Empingham clock on display in the Courtroom has just more hurdle to overcome - permission for transfer of ownership from Empingham Parish Council (which has very generously agreed to donate the clock) to STC must now be secured in the form of a licence from the Peterborough Diocesan Advisory Committee. Fingers are crossed! Local horologist Michael Lee (who has restored the clock in the past) has kindly offered to oversee the move from the Museum Store in Broad St. to the Town Hall, so all now depends on the PDAC.



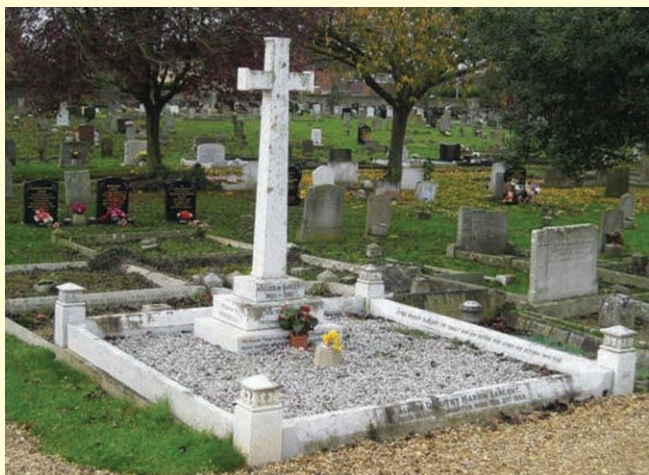
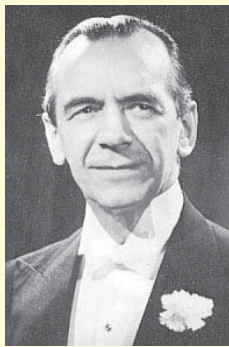
Adopt a Station

Any volunteers willing to become an adopter for Stamford Station and assist with such improvements as cleaning, weeding, planting, pruning, sweeping up leaves etc. in and around the station area should contact Cllr. David Taylor or Cllr. Max Sawyer via the Town Hall.



Sir Malcolm Sargent

On the morning of 3 October there will be a service at Sir Malcolm Sargent's grave (or in the Cemetery chapel if the weather is inclement) in Stamford Cemetery to commemorate the 50th. anniversary of his death. The service will include items from Sir Malcolm's funeral service, which was held in All Saints' Church and Memorial Service, which was held in Westminster Abbey.



Light Switch off

Lincolnshire County Council's lights switch-off policy is proving very controversial, with concerns raised about the likely effects on crime. Stamford Police are monitoring the situation, but there is no evidence as yet that the switch-off has affected crime levels in Stamford either way.

Vandalism in Stamford

It is sad to report that acts of mindless vandalism to public property by an anti-social minority are at a record level in Stamford. During the last two years alone Stamford Town Council has had to pay out nearly £8,000 of public money for repairs, renovations and



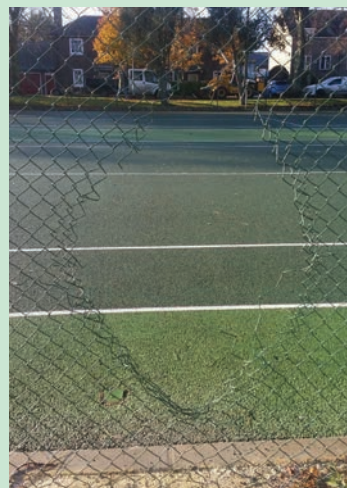
restorations from already hard-pressed budgets. Such wanton damage and destruction to our local environment not only inconveniences members of the public who may be



denied use of, or access to, vandalised facilities but reflects badly on the town and has the real potential to deter visitors and tourists who bring valuable revenue to shops and businesses in the town.



The public is urged most strongly to report to the Town Council any acts of vandalism they witness and to name any vandals they can identify so that appropriate action can be implemented. It is surely in



every resident's interest to protect the infrastructure they contribute towards through payment of their local taxes. Please, name and shame those mindless few who deliberately destroy the very fabric of our historic town. Thank you.



Certificate of Appreciation to Cummins

Cummins Engineering have a long and honourable record of carrying out voluntary work in Stamford. In recognition of this an STC Certificate of Appreciation was awarded to the company in the Council Chamber.

The photograph shows Guy Baxter.(CPG Global Account Leader) of Cummins receiving the award from the Mayor of Stamford, Councillor John Dawson.

Photo courtesy of Rev Warrick



Harry Skells Trust

Applications are invited for grants for any projects that qualify under the conditions as set out below.

The Harry Skells Estate Trust is constituted under the will of the late Harry Skells of Stamford and the income of the Trust is derived from the original endowment fund under this will.

The objectives of the Charity are:

The provision of parks and recreation grounds for the use, benefit and advantage of the inhabitants of Stamford.

The improvement of streets and roads within Stamford.

The improvement of the appearance, utility and amenity of buildings, walls, lamp posts, fences and other structures and of parks, car parks, bus stations and other open spaces in Stamford.

The Charity is run by a board of Trustees who are the Councillors of Stamford Town Council under the chairmanship of the Town Mayor. All grant applications are considered on their merits and the availability of funds.

Any enquiries or applications for a grant from the Charity should be addressed to the Town Clerk of Stamford who is Clerk to the Charity:

Mrs Patricia Stuart-Mogg

**Town Clerk, Stamford Town Council, Town Hall,
St Mary's Hill, Stamford, PE9 2DR.**

Tel: 01780 753808

Application Forms and or an extract of the will of the late Harry Skells may be obtained from Stamford Town Hall or electronically from the Stamford Town Council website

Holocaust Memorial Day

Holocaust Memorial Day was commemorated at 1100 on 27 January at the Holocaust Memorial in the newly-refurbished St. Michael's churchyard in High St. Around 30 were in attendance, including local residents, members of the local Jewish community and Stamford Town councillors. 27 JAN was chosen by the UK Government as it is the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz in 1944 by Soviet troops.



The numbers of those from different groups murdered during the Holocaust were read out (5.93m Jews, 2-3m soviet POWs, 2m ethnic Poles, 300,000-500,000 Serbs, 270,000 disabled, 90,000-220,000 Romani Gypsies, 80,000-200,000 Freemasons, 20,000-25,000 Slovenes, 5,000-15,000 Homosexuals, 2,500-5,000 Jehovah's Witnesses and 7,000 Spanish republicans), together with a reminder of the victims of genocide since WWII (Cambodia 2m, Rwanda 1m, Bosnia 8,000 and Darfur 200,000-400,000). All these men, women and children were killed, not because of anything they had done, but simply because of who they were.

The Mayor of Stamford, Councillor John Dawson, laid daffodils at the Memorial, chosen because the yellow colour and six-petal arrangement is redolent of the yellow Star of David badge that Jews were forced to wear under the Nazi regime in Europe. Others present then laid their own personal tributes.

The Jewish Prayer El Male Rachamim was read in English, followed by Last Post, a 2 minutes' silence and then Reveille, the trumpet being played by Lawrence Hayes, a Y10 pupil at Stamford School.

Graham Berkman, a member of the Peterborough Liberal Jewish Community then said Kaddish, most movingly in Hebrew, and this was followed by a Christian Holocaust prayer by the Rev. Philip Hall, which was read by the Rev. Andy Fyall, who concluded proceedings with Aaron's Blessing (Numbers Ch.6, verses 24-27).

It is intended that this commemoration should be an annual event and planning for 2018 is already under way.





Fairtrade Fortnight 2017 is here!

Feb 27th - March 12th

A week of **free** events celebrating Fairtrade



"Fairtrade in the Field" - an inspirational talk and drinks reception

John Downes shares his experiences of visiting Fairtrade producers in Cambodia and Thailand

Monday 27th February - 7pm

The Gallery, Stamford Arts Centre

Dine with a Difference

A gourmet four course meal, all created with local, fairtrade or organic produce.

Sold out!!
Tuesday 2nd March

6 for 6:30pm - The Gallery Restaurant, New College Stamford

Lunch with Esther Koskei

Enjoy a lunch at Second Helpings listening to Esther, chair of the Africa "Women in Coffee" project in Kenya, share an insight into her life with Fairtrade

Saturday March 4th

1pm - Second Helpings Stamford, Barn Hill Methodist Church

Fairtrade brew on the go!

Grab a free tea, coffee and fairtrade snack at Stamford station all week

Monday 6th - Friday 10th March

6:45 - 8:15am - Stamford train station



"Put Fairtrade in your break" - Coffee Morning

Coffee and cake raising money for the Traidcraft "Let it Grow" campaign

Friday 10th March

10am-12pm - The Well, Barn Hill Methodist Church



Stamford Festival Parade of Floats Saturday 24 June 2017

You probably don't need any reminding but for more than 30 years Stamford & District Kiwanis have organised the Festival Parade of Floats through the centre of Stamford. You can take part on a float, as a walking group, or with a decorated vehicle.

It is a fantastic way to show that your school, organisation or business supports the local community. The event starts and ends at the Recreation Ground playing field where there are all sorts of activities through the afternoon.

This year's theme is simply 'Fun!', so let your creative juices flow and start thinking of the ways you can wow the crowds! To take part, download the entry form from www.stamfordkiwanis.org.uk or email parade@stamfordkiwanis.org.uk. There you can register your entry and also let us know whether you will need us to provide a float for you to use (free of charge).



Mayor of Stamford, Cllr John Dawson presents the Best Club award to Stamford Pantomime Players



Sarah Dorson presents the Festival Directors Award (best walking float) to Welland School of Dancing



Sarah Dorson presents the Best School Award to Starlight Dance & Musical Theatre School



Mayor of Stamford, Cllr John Dawson presents the Best Commercial Award to Chester Lodge

Stamford's Information plaques

22 bronze information plaques (well-known to residents and visitors) were erected around the Town in 1922 by the then Tradesmen's Association. Over the years, four have gone missing - from Barn Hill (opposite the Methodist Church), Red Lion Square (All Saints' churchyard wall), the Leet Hall (the arches at the bottom of Castle Dyke) and St Leonard's Priory.

As a result of the splendid efforts of Peter Stevens four replacement plaques, funded by the Harry Skells Trust, have been commissioned and will be installed (in the order above) on 6 March, starting at around 1030.



Stamford Town Council

The Town Hall, St Mary's Hill, Stamford, Lincolnshire, PE9 2DR
T:- 01780 753808 E:- townhall@stamfordtowncouncil.gov.uk
www.stamfordtowncouncil.gov.uk  @stamfordtc

Forthcoming Events for 2017

- PINDERS CIRCUS ~ Thursday 9th - Sunday 12th March ~ Recreation Ground
- MID-LENT FAIR ~ Monday 27th March - Sunday 2nd April ~ Town Centre & The Meadows
- GARDEN SHOW (Rotary Club) ~ Sunday 14th May ~ The Meadows
- ANTIQUES WEEKEND ~ Thursday 19th - Tuesday 21st May ~ The Meadows
- RAF FREEDOM PARADE ~ Thursday 25th May ~ Threw the Town
- FOOD & DRINK FESTIVAL ~ Saturday 10th - Sunday 11th June ~ The Meadows
- MAYOR'S SUNDAY ~ Sunday 18th June ~ All Saints' Church
- ARMED FORCES FLAG RAISING ~ Sunday 18th June ~ Town Hall
- STAMFORD FESTIVAL ~ Saturday 24th & Sunday 25th June ~ Threw the Town
- TOWN HALL OPEN DAY ~ Saturday 24th June ~ Town Hall
- MUSIC FESTIVAL ~ Friday 14th - Monday 17th July ~ The Meadows
- WELLAND VALLEY WANDER ~ Sunday 13th August ~ The Meadows
- CAR SHOW (Rotary Club) ~ Sunday 27th August ~ The Meadows
- STAMFORD DOG SHOW ~ Sunday 10th September ~ The Meadows
- ANTIQUES WEEKEND ~ Thursday 14th - Monday 18th September ~ The Meadows
- BATTLE OF BRITAIN PARADE & SERVICE ~ Sunday 17th September ~ All Saints' Church
& The War Memorial
- GEORGIAN FESTIVAL ~ Thursday 21st - Sunday 24th September ~ Threw the Town
- AUTUMN FAIR ~ Wednesday 12th - Sunday 15th October ~ Recreation Ground
- ARMISTICE DAY ~ Saturday 11th November ~ The War Memorial
- REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY ~ Sunday 12th November ~ The War Memorial

For an update on any events since the publication of this notice please visit our website. www.stamfordtowncouncil.gov.uk.