



Stamford
Town Council

NEWS

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A GRATEFUL NATION BIDS FAREWELL

At 3.10pm on September 8th, 2022, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II passed away peacefully, aged 96, drawing the second great Elizabethan era to a close.

For most modern Britons, Elizabeth was the only monarch they had ever known. Her 70-year reign had provided a constant and stable background to the enormous changes that the UK had witnessed over the last half of the 20th century and first decades of the new millennium. She had presided over the winding down of Empire, the establishment of the Commonwealth and the transformation of British society that has led to the diverse, vibrant nation that we live in today. Further afield, she became the most widely travelled and famous royal in the world, being known internationally, simply as *'The Queen'*.

Of her many achievements as head of state, most notable were; cementing the Anglo-Irish peace accord by making the first visit as UK sovereign since independence; being the first British monarch to address U.S. Congress; modernising the monarchy by paying tax and ending the tradition of male primogeniture; and last but not least, becoming the longest reigning sovereign in our history.

On her 21st birthday, before she succeeded her father George VI, the then Princess Elizabeth pledged that her "whole life, whether it be long or short, shall be devoted to your service".

Seven decades later, as we bid her farewell after a lifetime of service and unswerving devotion to duty, the people of Stamford affectionately say, *"Thankyou, Ma'am"*.

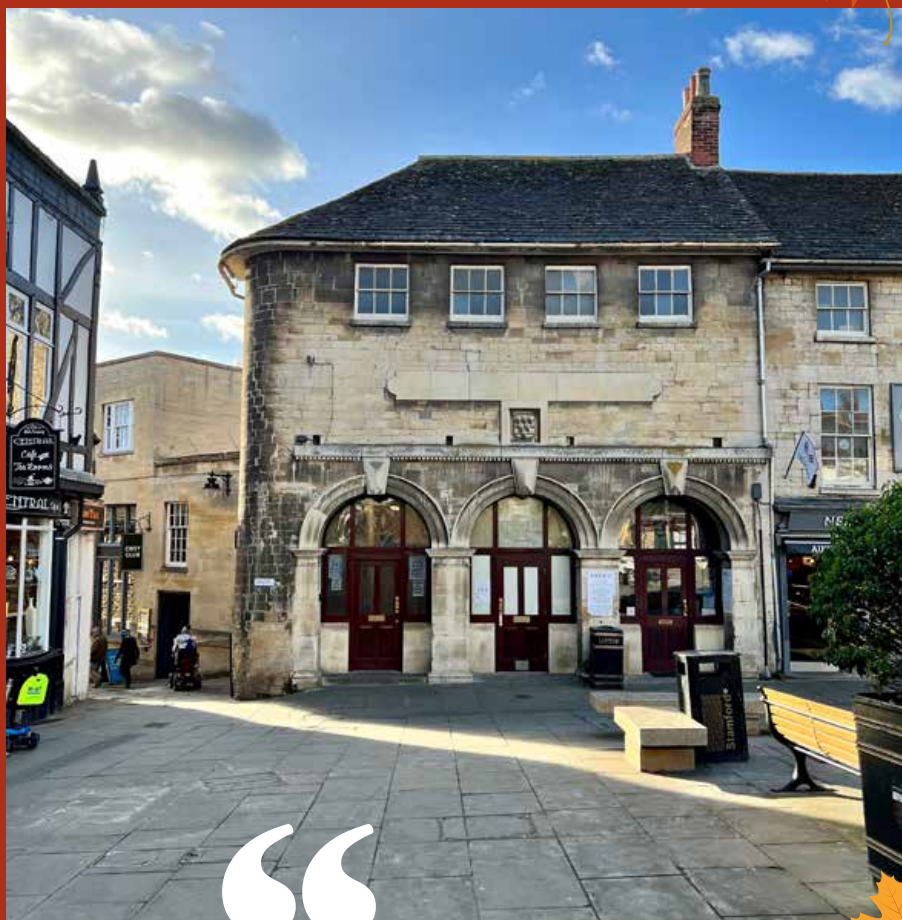
Stamford is served by three tiers of Councils – Lincolnshire County Council (LCC), South Kesteven District Council (SKDC) and Stamford Town Council (STC). The latter was a Borough Council until 1974, when it lost its Borough status and became a Town Council.

FROM THE CLERK'S DESK

Patricia Stuart-Mogg

Over the years Stamford Town Council has focussed on working collaboratively with the other two principal Councils. During these challenging times cooperation between all three tiers is even more important; so that partnership services may be delivered most cost effectively. Striving to focus on the needs of citizens is of paramount importance to Stamford Town Council.

STC agreeing with LCC to deliver grass verge cutting in Stamford has resulted in the contract delivery being enhanced and ensured that verges and open spaces are fully cut and strimmed, not just cut to a metre from the kerb as hitherto. Recent discussions with SKDC have resulted in the transfer of the Red Lion Square public conveniences to STC. The Town Council is confident it will provide a much-improved facility and public service. Additionally, the Empingham Road and Uffington Road playing fields will also be coming under the ownership and management of STC. First Tier Councils such as Stamford are key to improving the quality of life in local communities, as they possess the vital local knowledge to ensure that the local economy grows and that public services are delivered both efficiently and successfully.



Striving to focus on the needs of citizens is of paramount importance to Stamford Town Council.

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Town Hall Officer Officiates Queen's Funeral

The Town Council was honoured to have its own representative at Her Majesty the Queen's funeral. In addition to his role as STC Administration Officer, Richard Tracey, is also a member of the Royal Auxiliary Air Force Band. A regular serviceman for 22 years, over the last four he has been balancing his duties at the Town Hall with those of part-time RAF musician.

Soon after the Queen's passing, Richard was asked by his Commanding Officer if he would be able to play at Her Majesty's funeral as he had done for the Duke of Edinburgh the previous year. Having obtained permission from the Town Council, he travelled down to his Headquarters in London to begin a week's rehearsal in preparation for the ceremony. This included a night-time rehearsal where the bands were required to march, play and stand to attention in the pitch-blackness of the early hours.

On the day of the funeral, Richard and his colleagues were driven down at 5am to the Wellington Barracks in London with a police escort.



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To honour their 'Commander in Chief', all three forces (Army, Navy and Air Force) would be participating in her funeral procession. There were six 'flights' of 24 troops from the RAF and in the centre was an 84-piece band of which Richard was a clarinet player. The marching and drill was extremely precise with the pace being set by the musicians, who performed a programme of six marches played at 'fast-slow' tempo.

At 10.15am sharp, the troops from the various forces and their bands marched out of Wellington Barracks to their designated positions – some to Westminster Abbey, the rest to Horseguards Parade and Whitehall where they massed and stood to attention



The Queen visiting Stamford in 1961

for the minute's silence. At 11.15am, the troops at Horseguards marched down the Mall ahead of the funeral cortege which was by now making its way back from the Abbey. On route, they passed Buckingham Palace where all the Palace staff had come out to pay their final respects. Reaching Wellington Arch at Hyde Park Corner, the bands joined together to play the waiting music until the Queen's coffin arrived on a gun carriage drawn by 142

Royal Navy sailors. Funeral marches were resumed while the coffin was placed into a hearse for its journey to Windsor and the conclusion of the ceremony.



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Reflecting on his experience, Richard says that he "feels privileged to have taken part", and he was "very glad to have had the opportunity to pay a personal musical tribute to Her Majesty".

Stamford mourns its Sovereign

Following the announcement of the Queen's death, cities, towns and villages across the country joined together to mark their loss. In accordance with official guidelines, Stamford Town Council declared ten days of mourning, lowering flags at the Town Hall to half mast and cancelling all council business for the duration. A Book of Remembrance was set up in the Mayor's Parlour enabling residents to write messages of condolence and the war memorial outside Browne's Hospital was designated as a place where floral tributes could be left.

Expressing his condolences, Mayor David Taylor said, "On behalf of Stamford Town Council and the people of Stamford, I pay tribute to our late Queen for her unwavering, lifelong dedication to serving her people. She has been the one constant in all our lives. Her decades of service will never be matched, nor the affection in which she was held." Services of remembrance for Her Majesty were widely attended at churches of all denominations throughout the mourning period.





A New King is Proclaimed



The Proclamation of a new Monarch is an age-old ceremony that dates back centuries to a time when news was spread by messengers on horseback and town criers. It formally announces to subjects across the realm that the reigning monarch has died and that their heir, in this case King Charles III, has acceded to the throne. Following the Queen's death, The national Proclamation took place on Saturday, 10th September, at St James's Palace in central London, while local Proclamations around the country followed the next day.

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“God Save the King!”
and three cheers for
His Majesty”

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Image: Chris Hunt

Stamford held its Proclamation at Browne's Hospital in Broad Street, where hundreds of people had gathered to witness the historic scene. Shortly before 3pm, with the Union flag that had been flying at half mast above the hospital raised to full height, Mayor David Taylor accompanied by the Deputy Mayor, Town Clerk, Town Crier, church representatives and armed forces dignitaries walked onto the balcony. As the clock of All Saints Church struck three, the Town Crier announced the Mayor who proceeded to read the text of the Proclamation, honouring the late Queen and naming the new Sovereign. He ended with an exclamation of “God Save the King!” and three cheers for His Majesty. The ceremony was concluded with a rousing rendition of the National Anthem.



Images: Chris Hunt www.stamfordlocalhistorysociety.org.uk

Climate Action Group

Martin Ballard is a Chartered Environmentalist with 25 years' experience in environmental regulation, utility and construction sectors. He is Chair of Audit for the Inspire Education Group (Stamford and Peterborough Colleges) and trustee with our region's Rivers Trust.

Decades of misaligned energy policy has led UK plc to a perfect storm crunch point:

- reliance on distant (and now unfriendly) gas fields
- macro power plants with decade long lead times
- climate change conditions.

The strain on our household pockets is now critical, with eye watering cost increases for energy.

There are many things we can do to save cost and reduce reliance, but it means challenging our comforts and 'norms'.

1 Get a smart meter – if you do not have one, contact your energy supplier.

2 **Switch-it-off (or down)** – turn everything off, then check your meter use to see your power 'base load'. Do you have vampire devices that eat your energy in the background? Which devices are your most energy hungry? Decide whether to keep them off, maintain them (de-ice the freezer etc) or use them only when you need or only on night rates (many devices have start timers).

3 **Maintain, renew or replace** – is now the time to replace old and inefficient washing/drying/dishwash machines?

4 **Cooking** – Check out this podcast on efficient ways to cook: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/m001b4v2> [scroll through to 1.07:50]. Microwaves and air fryers are far more efficient than gas hobs or fan ovens. Ovens for special occasions only!

5

Heating water is our most costly activity at winter, whether making hot drinks, heating the house or washing ourselves or clothes.

- Boil the kettle with only the volume for the drinks needed;
- Check your boiler condition and flush your radiators to decalcify the pipes;
- Consider how quickly can you shower – have a time challenge with the family!

6

If you have a multi-fuel burner, only use smoke free fuels and non-treated timbers to protect your family's lungs! Ensure the flue is swept annually and in good condition.

Looking ahead, our need for household self-reliance is ever more important; let's leave that note for another day. In the meantime, follow this link for more advice:

<https://energysavingtrust.org.uk/hub/quick-tips-to-save-energy/>

The next Climate Action Group meeting is Wednesday 12th October at 6pm. This virtual meeting can be joined by emailing townclerk@stamfordtowncouncil.gov.uk for the link. Everyone is welcome!



Best Kept Allotment Competition 2022

The 44th Stamford Town Council's Best Kept Allotment Competition was held on 11th October 2022, having been run annually since 1976. This year the competition was judged by Joe Whitehead Head Gardener at Burghley, Rob Persani of Rutland and Stamford Sounds, Councillor Elaine Hooper Vice Chair of the Amenities Committee and Deputy Town Clerk Sarah Dorson.

The evening was enjoyed by the allotment tenants and members of the Town Council who all help present the prizes for the competition. Fun was had by all with a challenging quiz and the evening was opened with the enjoyable poem by Stamford's former Poet Laureate Rob Elks.

The prize winners received prizes from Stamford Town Council, Burghley Estates, & Thompson & Morgan, which we would like to thank for their generosity.

The Overall Winner for 2022 was Mr Joe Aquilina, who received the W&J Brown Cup. The Novice Cup Winner was received by



Stamford Special Allotments and the runner up was Mrs Anne Crawford Clarke. The Senior Citizens award was won by Mrs Judy Sewell who received the Wilkinson's Shield, and the runner up was Mr J H Bates. The Eco Award was won by Mr & Mrs Mackinnon who received the Eco Award Trophy, and the runner up was Joshua Tree. The Open Cup was received by Mr Stephen Hogan and the runner up was Mr Peter Christmas. Finally, Olga Raby won the Highley Commended Award.

Stamford Town Council has six allotment sites across the town if you are interested in becoming an allotment tenant, please contact the town hall on 01780 753808 or email townhall@stamfordtowncouncil.gov.uk



Friends of Stamford Station (FoSS)

FoSS are volunteers who work at the railway station as part of East Midlands Railway's (EMR) "Station Adopters" initiative.

This initiative encourages Adopters to take care of the station, reporting defects etc, and generally improving the station environment for the benefit of both Stamford town and the station users.

So far this year alone we have achieved:

- a wholesale overhaul of the embankment on Platform 1 (Peterborough/Cambridge side)
- installation of two flower planters on each platform (kindly provided by Team Stamford)
- installation of two planters outside the station frontage (supplied by EMR)
- in the main car park (with help from EMR and Network Rail)



- the construction of a large 'Bug Hotel' and two large flower planters
- made a start on clearing the embankment
- sown some wildflower seeds (provided by SKDC) to encourage 'guests' for the bug hotel
- general weed and vegetation control
- ongoing litter picking, sweeping, painting etc

Many more projects are planned but practically all of these are dependent on grants and donations as the group has no regular source of income. Any financial contributions towards seeds, plants, gardening materials and equipment etc. would always be very welcome.

We are very grateful to the Town Council for their continued support including a grant bestowed early this year which we used to buy plants and compost, and for other longer-term projects e.g. improving accessibility at the station.

If you would like to find out more information about what we do, or even to make a donation, please email us at foss-team@outlook.com



MAYOR OF STAMFORD 2022-23

The new Mayor of Stamford, Councillor David Taylor claims to have fallen into local politics 'by accident' after successfully fighting to prevent a large-scale development in Stamford. This drew him into the creation of a Neighbourhood Plan for the Town which was, after 5 years, adopted in June 2022.

David is a Chartered Marketeer by profession and has held various senior marketing roles with blue-chip companies in the media, retail, leisure and business services sectors.

He 'opted out' of corporate life 10 years ago and has subsequently worked in corporate development roles for a number of environmental charities including the Woodland Trust, Buglife and the Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust where he currently works.

David's chosen charities for his mayoral year are RAFA (the Royal Air Forces Association) and the Royal British Legion.

In June, David completed a 100-mile bike ride for RAFA, raising in excess of £2000. Further fundraisers are planned on October 27th, when the Band of Royal Air Force College will be playing a concert at Stamford School, and April 21st 2023 when a golf tournament will be held at Burghley Golf Club.

Commenting on his mayoral year so far David said 'It's truly an honour and privilege to serve as Mayor of this amazing town. My diary has been very busy post the covid-disruption and with this year being the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Then with Her Majesty's sad passing there has been much to do including the proclamation of King Charles III accession to the throne at Browne's Hospital. That event has been the highlight of my year and I suspect will remain so. To participate, in just a small way, in the making of a bit of history was a once in a lifetime opportunity and a real honour.'

Mayor's 100 mile charity bike ride

The Mayor of Stamford, Councillor David Taylor took to the saddle to raise money for the Royal Air Forces Association. Thanks to the wonders of modern technology he took this challenge, 'virtually', on the steps of Stamford Town Hall on June 10th 2022. The 100 mile bike ride was was part of the RAFA Rides 2022.



A just giving page was set up which raised a staggering £1647, in addition curious passers by gave generously as the 6 hour ride went on throughout the day. The Mayor was supported by The Mayoress, Mrs Karen Taylor.



Councillor Taylor stated "Our town has a strong and long association with our armed forces and those that serve them and so I am delighted to raise funds for these great causes."



The Mayor & Mayoress of Stamford, Cllr & Mrs David Taylor

Councillor Gloria Johnson end of year presentations

Former Mayor, Councillor Gloria Johnson ended her year in office with cheque presentations to two charities. Her fundraising activities generated over £3000 which was divided equally between The Royal British legion (Stamford Branch) and The Lincs & Notts Air Ambulance.



Councillor Johnson also presented an engraved town shield to Rev Andy Fyall in acknowledgement of his services as Mayor's Chaplain and to the wider community of Stamford. Mrs Jill Collinge was similarly recognised for her dedicated work in establishing the new Stamford Visitor Centre, currently located at St John's Church.

From left to right: Mrs Jill Collinge, Mr Jim Jackson, Councillor Gloria Johnson, Air Comm. Fin Monohan and Rev Andy Fyall.

Stamford Christmas Market

Sunday 27 November 2022
10am to 5pm

GOOD NEWS - Our popular Christmas Market will be returning to the heart of Stamford on the last Sunday in November. This market is well known for the exclusive and independent traders that come to support the event, selling unusual, stylish, and traditional gifts in Broad Street, Ironmonger Street, and High Street. There will also be tantalizing treats and delights available to purchase to keep you refreshed during your visit.

To add to the festive atmosphere of our Christmas Market, the Christmas Lights will be on and there will be numerous entertainers in various locations throughout the footprint of the market, including Choirs, Carol Singers, and other musical performances. The lovely Pennine Bernese Carter Dogs will be here again, wandering through the market towing festively dressed carts and don't miss Santa, who will be there in his grotto waiting to greet his visitors.

Come along and be part of this ever-popular community event that attracts many thousands of visitors from far and near; there is good **FREE** parking facilities on Sundays and the Town Centre and the market is easily accessible to all.



For more information on how to become involved in this successful and highly popular event by trading, volunteering, sponsoring or just coming along to soak up the atmosphere, please contact Stamford Town Council at townhall@stamfordtowncouncil.gov.uk or go to the website on www.stamfordtowncouncil.gov.uk where a booking form can be downloaded.

We look forward to seeing you there!

The Shack

The Shack is a purpose-built facility available to hire from Stamford Town Council. Situated on the edge of Stamford's Recreation Ground and adjacent to the Skate Park it is the perfect location for a community groups etc to meet.



Measuring 18metres by 4.5 metres the facility includes a kitchenette, an attached private room and toilet and has wheelchair access. This is ideal for community groups weekly meetings, a business hub, theatrical rehearsals etc. The enclosed garden would also lend itself to children's birthday parties.

The hire charge starts from just £10 per hour, subject to terms and conditions. A £25 key deposit is required.

For further information please visit Stamford Town Council's website www.stamfordtowncouncil.gov.uk - or to speak to the Civic Officer or a helpful member of the Town Hall team please telephone 01780 753808.



Weddings

Whether you're looking for a larger ceremony in our Courtroom or something a little more unique and intimate in The Mayor's Parlour, our team can work with you to give you a truly unforgettable day.



Built in 1776, the beautifully restored Grade II* Listed Georgian Town Hall is situated in the heart of Stamford. As a former Court House, the Town Hall is full of character and original features and provides a perfect backdrop for wedding photographs.

Stamford Town Hall has undergone an extensive renovation programme entirely in keeping with its historic heritage. To complement this important initiative, Stamford Town Hall is now licensed as a prestigious venue for the solemnisation of Civil Marriage and Civil Partnerships.

For further information please visit Stamford Town Council's website www.stamfordtowncouncil.gov.uk.

To arrange a no obligation viewing speak to the Civic Officer or a helpful member of the Town Hall team please telephone 01780 753808.



Images By Rebecca Goddard Photography

Stamford Christmas Market

Sunday 27th November 2022
10am - 5pm

Santa's Grotto
Craft/Food Stalls
Entertainment/Music
Xmas Goodies

High Street
Ironmonger Street
Broad Street

Stamford
Town Council

Stamford Town Hall T: 01780 753808
E: townhall@stamfordtowncouncil.gov.uk
W: www.stamfordtowncouncil.gov.uk

Stamford Welcomes its Ukrainian Guests



As a response to the humanitarian crisis caused by the Russian invasion of Ukraine earlier this year, the town of Stamford opened its heart and its doors to Ukrainian refugees fleeing from the devastation.

In March, Stamford saw its first 'Korpfest', an art festival supported by Art Pop-Up and held in Red Lion Square. Local artist Paul Kneen's paintings entitled 'Tribute to the People of Ukraine', were auctioned at Bateman's, raising £1,500 with all proceeds going to the DEC Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal.

In May, over a hundred people took part in a peace walk round Stamford to show support for Ukraine. Organised by Stamford Diversity Group and supported by STC, there was a rally with singing from soprano Gabriella Pineda-Rodrigues and reading of a poem called 'Sunflowers' by Amelia Billington. 17-year-old Daryna, who is being hosted in



Stamford, said the event had been "symbolic of the town welcoming us". £455 was raised with full proceeds going to DEC Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal.

In June, Stamford's Ukrainian hosts and guests were treated to an evening of food and entertainment at Stamford College. Canapes and drinks were offered on arrival, and jazz was provided by saxophonist Jay Stebbs. Guests were then served a full 5-course menu cooked by the College's catering

and hospitality students. During dinner, poems by Stamford's Poet Laureate Scott Coe and Youth Poet Laureate Daniel Paice were read in English and Ukrainian.

September saw an 'Open Door' evening of Poetry, Art and Music raising over £250 for local Ukrainians. A further fundraising music concert was held at Stamford Arts Centre

featuring a band called MUHA, whose lead singer is Ukrainian, and a film 'Ruthenia' was shown in the cinema by Stamford refugee filmmaker Natalia Yakovleva.



Local Ukrainians also featured in the 'Moments of Peace' exhibition at the Arts Centre, which showed individuals and families photographed in quiet reflection. Rutland Photographer Alan Walters' project was part of One World Week, headed up by Fairtrade, with Stamford & Rutland

Amnesty and Red Cross. A piano concert including pieces of Ukrainian music was performed by Fergus Black.

Opening the exhibition, Yvette Diaz-Munoz of Stamford Diversity said, "The local community has welcomed the Ukrainians with open arms. There is so much positivity, good will and generosity in our small town. We shall continue to support them and have further plans afoot!"

New Community Speed Watch

Community Speed Watch is an initiative of Lincolnshire's Road Safety Partnership (LRSP) working with town and parish councils, and there are currently more than 200 parish and town councils operating the scheme across the County.

In response to public concerns about speeding in the town, the Town Council and local County Councillor Richard Cleaver have worked together with the LRSP to recruit, train and equip a local Speed Watch group of more than a dozen volunteers.



The group has now begun carrying out regular speed checks at seven initial sites around the town. These are on Barnack Rd, Tinwell Rd, Roman Bank, Empingham Rd, Sidney Farm Lane, Casterton Rd, & Little Casterton Rd. The group passes on the results of each speed check session to the LRSP and the Police then send letters of advice to the registered keeper of any vehicle recorded exceeding the speed limit.

New Speed Watch volunteers are always welcome, and if you would like to join the group, please email Cllr Cleaver at CllrR.Cleaver@Lincolnshire.gov.uk

Youth Council

Stamford Youth Council will be held on Wednesday 9th November 2022 at 4pm at Stamford Town Hall.

The Council believe that the young people of this town are the future and, as such, invite them to form a new platform to consider initiatives on behalf of the youth of Stamford and present to the Council.

As this is a new platform, the format and the schedule of meetings will be very much up for discussion. Schools may select students by school election or by nomination, but we would like to encourage a diverse group of ages, genders, and backgrounds.



This first meeting will be facilitated by a dedicated officer, together with one of the town councillors to chair the meeting. After contacting all the schools and colleges in the local area there has been a positive to this initiative.

For further information please do not hesitate to contact, Mark Murtagh, Civic officer at the Mayor's Office on 01780 753808 or email civico officer@stamfordtowncouncil.gov.uk.

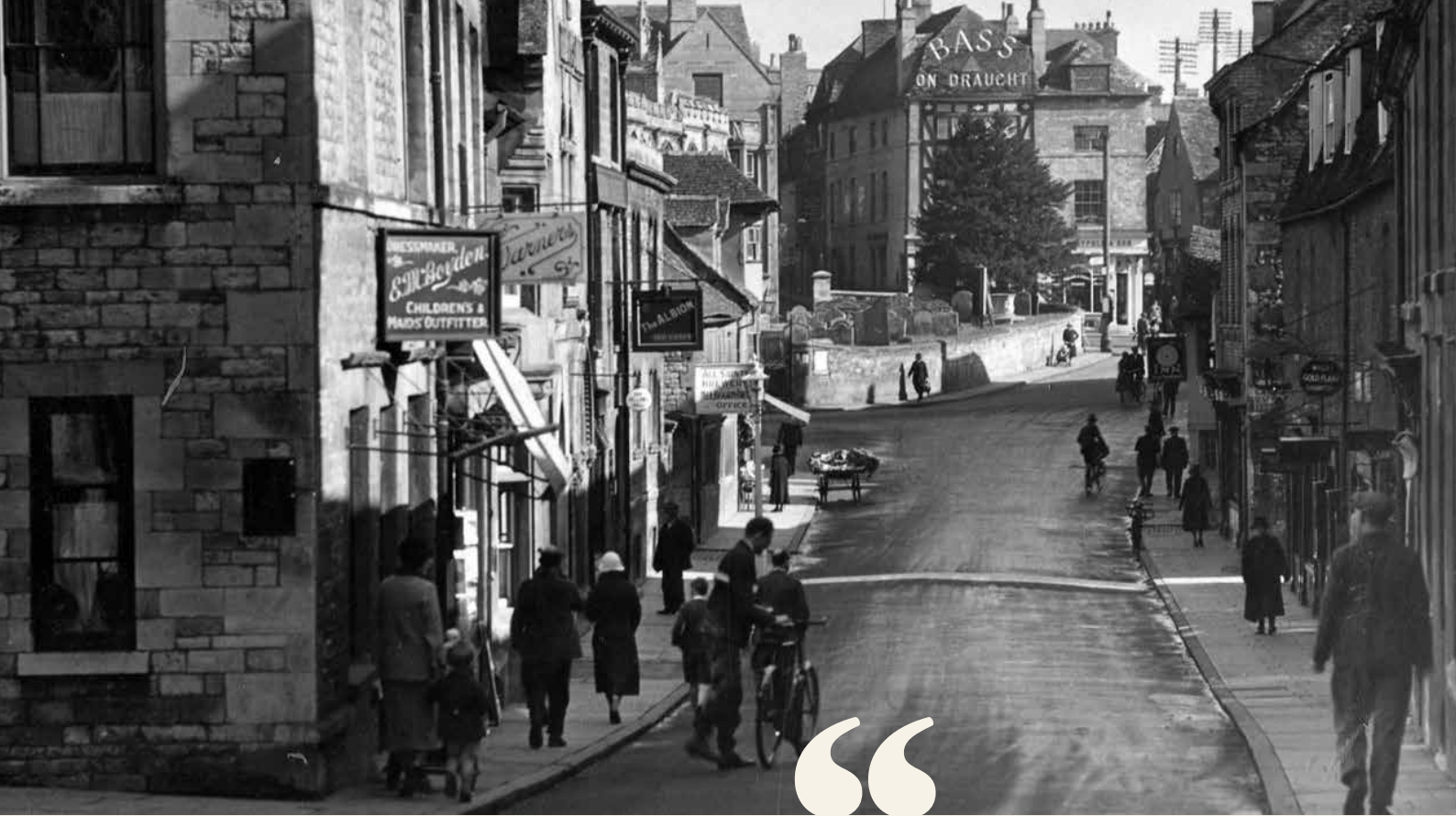


Image: Frank Newbon

The Museum Project

In the centuries since the town of Stamford was founded, countless Stamfordians have lived their lives and moved on. What remains, however, are the myriad objects that those individuals owned, made, sold and used. They bear testimony to people's existence and continue to tell their story.

Many such items have been collected over time by Stamford Town Council (STC) as a record of the town's past. Now, in a bid to introduce them to modern residents and visitors, STC is working on plans to establish a new museum. Until 2011, there had been a museum in Stamford, but it closed due to funding cuts. Since then, the town's collection of over 25,000 historic artifacts has been carefully stored and is currently being reassessed for public exhibition.



To launch the new Museum project, STC recently mounted the 'Spirit of Stamford' event, during which ten objects were chosen from the museum collection by familiar town personalities and then residents were asked to vote for their favourite. The winner was a sign from the J.R. Smith umbrella-works on All Saints' Street (top) chosen by Stewart Jackson of Frank Newbon (right). Runners-up were Daniel Lambert's outsize stocking and a snuff box made out of the horn of a bull from the Stamford Bull Run.

In addition to voting for objects, the public were asked to express their ideas for a new museum. The combined responses revealed a vivid picture: "A vibrant, interactive attraction that offers history and education, but will also be regularly changing and relevant to the community".

A vibrant, interactive attraction that offers history and education...



STC is currently working to attain Accreditation status from the Arts Council, which is necessary for the new Museum to become a fully-fledged organisation. Key to this process is the appointment of a curator, who will provide vision and dedicated management for the museum and its collection. The council is also searching for suitable premises to house the museum, which will need to be centrally located, large enough to accommodate the collection and accessible for people with disabilities.

Moving forward, there are exciting plans to open the Town Hall cellars as an Escape Room attraction, where participants solve dastardly challenges and puzzles to escape from the 'dungeon' in an allotted time. It is hoped that this will make more aspects of town history accessible to a new generation, while creating funding for the Museum project. If you have any thoughts about the new museum you would like to share, please contact Sarah Dorson at dtc@stamfordtowncouncil.gov.uk



Upcoming Events



CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH ON



REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

Sunday 13th November 2022

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

War Memorial, Broad Street

Thursday 24th November 2022

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH ON

Red Lion Square

Sunday 27th November 2022

CHRISTMAS MARKET

High Street, Ironmongers Street & Broad Street

Sunday 11th December 2022

CAROLS ON THE BANDSTAND

Recreation Ground



CHRISTMAS MARKET



Stamford
Town Council