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HIBALDSTOW VILLAGE VOICE

Volume 22 - Edition 6: December/January 2019



Articles: hibaldstowvillagevoice@gmail.com Adverts/Sponsor: hibaldstowvoiceadverts@gmail.com Finances: sylvia.wattam@icloud.com/01652 652790 Distribution: Valerie & Peter Moore 01652 654574



Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from the Village Voice Production Team! We hope you've had a fantastic 2018 and look forward to what 2019 brings!

For the Village Voice we'll be having some changes in the new year with two new editors taking over. You'll hear more from them in the next edition!

For the next edition of the Village Voice, please submit your content for articles and adverts by: **Tuesday 8th January 2019.**

Disclaimer

The opinions, beliefs and viewpoints expressed by the various authors of articles and letters published with in "The Village Voice" publication do not necessarily reflect the opinions, beliefs and viewpoints of the Editor, Producers or Committee.

GDPR (General Data Protection Regulations 2018)

Please be aware that by submitting an article or by emailing the Editor, Producers or Committee, you are agreeing to your details being stored in accordance to GDPR 2018 unless you specify otherwise in your correspondence. No information will be passed to a third party unless written permission is granted from the information owner.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Hibaldstow Medical Practice	(01652) 650580
Scunthorpe General Hospital	(01724) 282282
North Lincolnshire Council	(01724) 296296
NHS Direct	111
National Gas Emergency Service	0800 111 999
Anglian Water	08457 145 145
Electricity - Emergency and Supply failures	s 0800 375 675
Police (Non-emergency)	101
Church Hall	(01652) 652120/(01652) 650896
Village Hall	07583077068

31 Diary Dates 2018

Event	Day	Venue	Time
Short Mat Bowls Club	Every Monday	Village Hall	2.00pm
Scouts	Every Monday	Village Hall	5.45pm
Rural Day Centre	Every Tuesday	Village Hall	11.00am - 2.00pm
Kurling	Every Tuesday	Village Hall	2.00pm
Zumba	Every Wednesday	Village Hall	6.00pm
Short Mat Bowls Club	Every Wednesday	Village Hall	7.15pm
Short Mat Bowls	Every Thursday League Matches Night	Village hall	7.15pm
Event	Day	Venue	Time
Hibaldstow Pop-In	Every Monday	Church Hall	9.30am
Art Class	Every Monday	Church Hall	1.00pm - 3.00pm
Hibaldstow W.I.	1st Tuesday of the month	Church Hall	7.30pm
Chair Exercises	Every Wednesday	Church Hall	1.30pm - 2.30pm
Astronomy Society	Last Wednesday of the month	Methodist Hall	7.30pm
History Club	3rd Thursday of the month	Church Hall	7.30pm
Book Club	Book Club Book Club Book Club Book Club Bi-monthly on the first Thursday of the month starting from February		7.30pm
Event	Day	Venue	Time
Cake and Company	Last Friday of the month	Methodist Church Hall	2.30pm - 4.30pn
Communion and Coffee	Every Wednesday	Scawby Church	10.00am



BRIGG SINGERS

The Brigg Singers will be making a welcome return to Hibaldstow on Saturday 1st December when they will present a Winter Concert at the Village Hall at 7.30pm in aid of The Alzheimer's Society.

The varied programme will include a mix of popular songs including some well known numbers from musicals together with some festive favourites.

Tickets are ± 5 each inclusive of Tea/Coffee and Mince Pies and will be available from Church Street Stores; Grandad's Shed, Wrawby Street, Brigg or by

calling 656875. There will also be a raffle and Alzheimer's Society merchandise stall. Previous concerts have sold out quickly so to avoid disappointment it would be advisable to get yours early!



Hibaldstow New Age Kurling Club Fancy a good natter?



Make new friends - learn to play **Kurling?** It is easy, just turn up at the **Village Hall** on **Tuesday** from **2.00pm - 4.00pm**.



Here is a promise - you will be made welcome. We are a light hearted group of people out for a change and to make new friends.

First session **FREE**, thereafter £2.00 includes light refreshments. For more information give **Gerald** a ring on **01652 650524** or better still, just turn up – you will be made very welcome.





Announcement:

There will be a Carol Service in Church on Friday 21st December at 7pm. Accompanied by the Salvation Army Band from Ashby. The Church holds 200 people and it would be good to see it full. The service will make a good beginning to Christmas.





Brigg Heritage Centre

Opening hours Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 10:00am – 2:00pm and Saturday 10:00am – 3:00pm

A new pop up exhibition has opened at the Heritage Centre entitled "Peace" which looks at the day peace was declared locally and what

happened following the Armistice in Brigg and the Ancholme Valley. Where possible, we have tried to follow the life of one soldier from each village after he returned from the War, the peace celebrations and also the Memorials in all the villages in the Ancholme Valley. There is also a light hearted look at the story of Jelly Babies which might surprise you! Children's crafts on Farmer's Market Saturday, 23^{2nd.} December will be getting ready for Christmas making gift boxes and cards. It's sale time on Farmer's Market Saturday 26th January, 2019, with craft kits and art works to try. Father Christmas will be visiting his

cosy Grotto in the Heritage Centre on Brigg Light Switch On night, 30th

November from 5.30pm and again on Saturday 8th 15th and 22nd December, 10.30-1.30pm. As always there will be Christmas craft activities during December and can be included as part of the visit to see Father Christmas. Our popular Heritage Craft workshops will resume in the New Year so watch our web site for details. Antique Fairs will begin in January, 2019 at the Buttercross on Farmer's Market Saturdays. Tables can be taken for £10 if you have items to sell.

Please ring the Heritage Centre on 01724 296771 if you require further details of any of the above.

How to contact us...

Robert Jackson 01724 296771 or email us briggheritage.centre@northlincs.gov.uk

Don't forget to follow us on **twitter @briggheritage** or check out our website **www.briggheritage.com.**

(C) we discover, we grow Girlguiding

A Brand new Rainbow unit has recently opened in Scawby for Hibaldstow & Scawby girls, it is the youngest section of Girl Guiding for 5-7 years olds. We are very excited as Girl Guiding have just revealed the new programme for us to offer the girls more exciting activities, games and skills for their

future.We meet at Scawby Village Hall, Term time 5pm - 6pm on Thursday evenings.

There is a waiting list so please register on the Guiding website www.girlguiding.org.uk or contact us by email scawbyrainbows@gmail.com for more information.



Hibaldstow Book Club held on 4th October 2018 in the Church Hall (Minutes taken by Heather McSharry)



Books discussed:

Arthur by Mikael Lindnord

A stray dog is adopted by an adventure racer and taken home from Ecuador to Mikael's homeland of Sweden. 'Arthur' is the true story of Arthur and how he comes to his new home in the words of his new friend, Mikael.

Some readers found it tedious until Arthur, the dog, arrives on the scene. There is a relatively long introduction to adventure racing and the author's life before meeting Arthur at the beginning of the book. Some, however, preferred the start. It was commented by one reader that the author seemed 'a bit full of himself'.

Some people remembered the news story breaking in 2015. Discussion of the book led into a discussion about dogs – where we've seen them, for example high numbers of stray dogs in the streets and docks of Chile, and what our own dogs are like.

"Totally different to anything I've ever read" said one reader, though the consensus was that it was not well written so regardless of how touching readers found the story the scores ranged from 5-7 and no higher.

The Child by Fiona Barton

A journalist's professional curiosity is tweaked when a baby's remains are uncovered on a building site and she ends up intertwined with various local residents and the police as the story of who the baby is, or rather whose the baby is, is uncovered. 'The Child' received mixed comments. One reader opened with the statement that they had read it some time previously and that they hadn't liked it then and didn't like it now. Another said it was well written. There was a divide between those who had seen the twist coming from about hallway through and those for whom it was a surprise. Unsurprisingly this had a significant effect on the two sides' judgement of the book in terms of the suspense it created. 'The Widow' – another of Fiona Barton's novels – was mentioned and compared. The journalist in 'The Child' features in this book also.

Scores ranged from 5 – 8.

The next meeting will be Thursday 6th December at Hibaldstow Church Hall. The books are: ONLY FOOLS AND STORIES by David Jason and THE SILENT COMPANIONS (a Gothic Horror) by Laura Purcell

Books for February: Turning the Tide on Plastic by Lucy Siegle, The Great Believers by Rebecca Makkai.



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1st Hibaldstow Brownies What are Brownies?

Brownies are for girls aged between about 7 and 10 years old. Brownies are part of the Guide movement, which is the

biggest youth organisation in the country.

At Brownies we use games, crafts and other activities to create a fun packed programme that aims to help the development of our young girls. We try to supplement our weekly meetings with days out and trips away. **Hibaldstow Brownies** has been operating for many years. We meet on Monday evenings from 6:00pm – 7:30pm in Hibaldstow School. If you think you might know someone who may be interested in joining then either give me a ring or come along one Monday night.

Angela Smith - Brown Owl - 01652 654229



1st Hibaldstow & Scawby Scout Group

Want to Join Us?

If you're aged between 6 and 18 and think you might like to join us, please contact us (details below) or pop into the

Church or Village Hall on a Monday evening to find out more details. Also, if you are over 18 and can spare a few hours now and then, there is always a job that wants doing, give us a ring, or pop in one Monday, we're nice people really.

Clothing Collection – Still Collecting!

We continue to collect clothing to raise funds to update and replace our Group's equipment. As ever we would like your help collecting **textiles**. This includes; **clothes, bags, shoes** etc. Either; give it to a Beaver, Cub, Scout or Explorer, alternatively bring it to the Village Hall on a Monday evening (during term time) or give one of the leaders a ring and we'll happily collect it. This helps raise nearly £1000 per year for the Group, which makes a **huge difference** to the activities we can run.

If you have any queries about anything to do with Beavers, Cubs, Scouts or Explorers, then please contact Alan Smith (Group Scout Leader) on 01652 654229.





ARE you a retired professional with experience of our emergency services: if so the Blue Lights Brigade wants YOU!

A FORMER police officer is the latest recruit to offer vital help to the North Lincolnshire community, after joining our unique new volunteering project. Martin Steedman, an officer for 30 years - who walked the rural beat in Kirton Lindsey for eight of those - has been recruited by the Blue Lights Brigade, (BLB). As a result, he is working with the Humberside Fire and Rescue Service – carrying out Safe and Well checks in the more rural areas, supporting the full time officers in ensuring the most vulnerable people in our society are looked after. "I get something out of this and joined the team because I know I have life skills that could be used to do things for people," said Martin, 63. And now this vital new volunteering service is looking out for more people like Martin. BLB was officially launched in the summer, after being awarded £77,500 funding from the national Connected Communities Innovation Fund, with a further £25,000 in match funding secured. Pioneered by former Humberside police inspector Steve



Lynn and his ex-colleague Steve Jones, it is the first project of its kind in Britain and was inspired by a desire to see retired professionals, over 50 years of age, put their vast experience to use across North and North East Lincolnshire. If you are retired and think you have the relevant experience, either within the emergency services or with an organisation connected to them, then please call Steve on 01472 231123 or email steve@vanel.org.uk *BLB is facilitated by VANRL, (Voluntary Action North



silvousplaitmerci@outlook.com www.facebook.com/FrenchinCaistor/

Stephanie – 07927 943 489 Fully insured DBS checked French native tutor Booking necessary Clubs run term time with a break during school holidays

Running at Hobbies Centre, Scunthorpe

Kids clubs for 8 to 12 years old, Sunday from 9 to 10 Kids clubs for 4 to 7 years old, Sunday from 10 to 11 Baby and toddler story and music group, Sunday from 11 to 11:30 Adult beginner workshop, Sunday from 11:30 to 1:00

Running at Brigg Heritage Centre

Adult intermediate beginner workshop, Thursday from 6 to 7:30 Adult beginner workshop, Saturday from 11 to 12:30

Other clubs held in Louth, Caistor, Grimsby, and Barton-Upon-Humber One to one sessions also available for children, teenagers preparing for GCSE and A level, and adults



Web: www.skydiving.co.uk Facebook: 'Skydive Hibaldstow' Phone: 01652 648837 Kris Cavell - Drop Zone Manager

We've had a great year at Skydive Hibaldstow, with what felt like the longest

summer for a long time we managed to lots of people skydiving over our beautiful Village. We've had over 100 charities use our centre to help raise thousands of pounds towards the great causes they support and we're very pleased to provide that platform for them.

As well as our tandem customers we have also had sports skydivers from all over the world join us, either training and competing in the National Skydiving Championships that we once again hosted at the end of August to international teams training for the World meet held in September in Australia. We even had one of our sponsored teams who train from our very village become the World Silver medallist in 4way formation Skydiving as well as becoming the wind tunnel world champion in indoor 4way formation competition,



so we have helped produce some World Champions on your doorstep!

For those of you who've always shown an interest in doing a Tandem Skydive or looking for that perfect Christmas Gift for the adrenaline junkie in your family, we have a great offer for you this festive period. If you use the promotion code Xmas2018 when booking a tandem skydive for 2019 or when purchasing a Gift Voucher you will receive a £25 discount, this promotion does end at midnight on Christmas eve though so act soon so you don't miss out! If skydiving isn't your thing though we still have you covered here at Skydive Hibaldstow, we have a great café and bar facilities offering a wide range of local produce, freshly cooked up for you to enjoy in our modern clubhouse. We also invite families to join us for our dairy ice cream parlour on those fresh sunny autumn and winter afternoons (or even during our wintery showers) and enjoy our wide range of flavours whilst taking in all the sites. Our clubhouse is now open Wednesday – Sunday if you are looking for that perfect place for an afternoon coffee and catch up with friends.

We look forward to hosting Hibaldstow and Scawby Scout Group for their first Ball in our clubhouse in February, the night will be a formal sit down 3 course meal with an auction for some great prizes that will go towards the fundraising for their Swiss adventure. If anyone would like to attend and book a table you can do via us here at Skydive Hibaldstow and we can put you in contact with the group leaders. We look forward to hosting their event and invite any local residents who would like to help them with this great evening or to simply attend and have your own table for friends, family or work colleagues.

For any enquiries please do not hesitate to contact us on 01652 648837, <u>info@skydiving.co.uk</u> or via our website www.skydiving.co.uk



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Please Visit our new website at www.scunthorpemalevoicechoir.com or phone 01469 530103 for more information.





Activity: Chair-based Exercise Where: Hibaldstow Church Hall When: Every Wednesday Time: 1.30pm-2.30pm Cost: £3.50

Chair-based exercise is gentle exercises designed for mixed abilities to help maintain and improve functional fitness, whilst having fun! Comfortable clothing is advised when taking part. For more information contact: **Graham Ellwood 01652 650896** or **Graham.ell13@gmail.com**



Glanford and Lindsey Lions Club

Without **YOUR** help we would not be able to assist the worthy causes we do; so a huge **THANK YOU** for the support you give us.

SANTA IS ON HIS WAY

It's the time of the year when most people are thinking about their Christmas preparations and for GLANFORD and LINDSEY LIONS this is certainly no exception.

The telephone calls and emails have been passing between the Lions and Santa's HQ now for some weeks and after a great deal of negotiation arrangements have been made for Santa to fit into his extremely busy schedule some visits to our locality... this is again another fantastic achievement for the Lions. Bringing Santa to the area not only creates a seasonal treat for so many but it also helps to ensure that the work undertaken by Lions can continue to meeting some of the needs of the community and individuals.

This year you're likely to see Santa on his sleigh 6pm to 8pm weekdays and 5pm to 8pm weekends in the following locations;

Kirton	- 1 st , 2 nd & 3 rd December
Broughton	- 4 th , 5 th , 6 th December
Snitterby	- 7 th December
Waddingham	- 7 th December
Scotter	- 8 th , 9 th , 10 th & 11 th December
Scotterthorpe	- 12 th December
Susworth	- 12 th December
East Butterwick	- 12 th December
Messingham	- 13 th , 14 th , 15 th & 16 th December
Scotton	- 17 th December
Grayingham	- 18 th December
Blyborough	- 18 th December
Willoughton	- 18 th December
Redbourne	- 19 th December
Gainsthorpe	- 19 th December
Hibaldstow	- 20 th , 21 st & 22 nd December
Please check for updates on the Glanf	ord & Lindsey Lions Facebook page.

ROAR Challenge 2019

Would you like to enter your school in the ROAR challenge? The ROAR Challenge is a Partnership with **7billionideas** to promote an exciting competition for Key Stage 2 pupils to generate and develop ideas that could change the world. To find out more view <u>www.7billionideas.com</u> or contact a member of the Lions. Glanford and Lindsey Lions Club may be able to sponsor your entry.

LIONS COMMUNITY SERVICES PROJECTS – CAMPAIGN 100

The Lions organisation worldwide is building on five pillars of Community Service; Hunger, Environment, Vision, Paediatric Cancer and Diabetes and during this year we will be looking to provide Diabetes Screening and an Environmental Litter Pick in our area. This will be additional to our help and assistance that we provide to the local community.

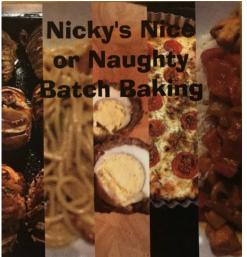
WEBSITE

If you would like to know more about Glanford and Lindsey Lions Club or the Internet Club you can visit our Club's website www.glanfordlindsey.lions105e.org.uk to keep up to date with our Club News or contact Lion Alan Hall on 01652 655470

December 2018 Services

- 1				
	2 nd December	8.00am 9.15am 9.15am 10.45am 4.00pm	BCP Holy Communion Songs of Praise Holy Communion Family Service with Baptism Christingle	Broughton Scawby Hibaldstow Broughton Broughton
	9 th December	8.00am 9.15am 9.15am 10.45am	BCP Holy Communion Holy Communion Songs of Praise BCP Holy Communion	Hibaldstow Scawby Hibaldstow Broughton
	Wednesday 13 th December	7.00pm	Memorial Service	Hibaldstow
	16 th December	8.00am 9.15am 9.15am 10.45am	BCP HC Holy Communion Bible Service Morning Praver	Scawby Hibaldstow Broughton
		4.00pm	Carol Service	Broughton
	Friday 21⁵t December	7.00pm	Carol Service	Hibaldstow
	23 rd December	8.00am 9.15am 9.15am 10.45am 6.00pm	BCP Holy Communion Songs of Praise Holy Communion Holy Communion Carol Service	Hibaldstow Hibaldstow Scawby Broughton Scawby
	Monday 24 th December (Christmas Eve)	3.30pm	Crib Service	Scawby
	(Christmas Eve)	5.00pm 11.00pm 11.00pm 11.15pm	Children's / Crib service Midnight Communion (BCP) Midnight Communion Midnight Communion	Broughton Broughton Scawby Hibaldstow
	Tuesday 25 th December (Christmas Day)	9.30am	Family Communion	Broughton
	(Ginstinas Day)	10.00am 10.00am	Family Communion Family Communion	Hibaldstow Scawby
	30 th December	9.15am	Group New Year's Service	Hibaldstow
		Mond Tueso	lays 8.30am Morning Prayer esdays 10.00am Holy Communion	Hibaldstow Scawby Scawby Broughton





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HIBALDSTOW W.I.

Update from Speaker Ilona Richards .

In the midst of the heatwave after the singing of Jerusalem and regular business had been completed WI members enjoyed a very entertaining and instructive evening with Ilona Richards who spoke with enthusiasm and conviction about her "Brilliant Life on a Pension".

Ilona is no stranger to public speaking having previously visited Hibaldstow whilst still working to give insight into her career and the opposition she initially faced as a woman embloved as a Class1 HGV driver. She has now been retired for nine years and after deciding what were the really important things in her life and how she would spend her money she perfected saving on day to day living expenses.

No stranger to our television screens she walked with Jo Brand whom she admired, for the first seventy miles of her charity walk and whilst describing the event gave her audience an impromptu demonstration of her walking technique! Followers of the television programmes Rip Off Britain and Super Scrimpers would recognise her from appearances on both shows although possibly her most high profile television appearance was as a finalist in The Shed of the Year competition when her summerhouse, constructed from pallets, old doors and reclaimed polycarbonate roofing panels was the winner of the Budget Shed cateaory. Ilona still regards meeting the craftsman/presenter William Hardy as a particular personal highlight.

Ilona advised shopping at the big supermarkets after 7pm when much of the food in the chiller cabinet have been marked down as they have reached or are nearing their sell by date. Ilona states confidently that she ignores sell by/use by dates, preferring instead to rely on her nose, her eyes and her common sense. She declares no loyalty to any store but shops where things are cheapest, once even making a special trip to spend a hundred pounds on a bulk buy of her cats' favourite food when discovered at a knock down price. Money saving tips continued apace with regard to travel, cleaning, the big utility companies, shopping for clothes and practically every other area of everyday life.

The final part of the evening was devoted to her hobby of arts and crafts with talented and imaginative use of recycled everyday items which have in the past been exhibited in Scunthorpe at the 20:21 Arts centre. She has a forthcoming exhibition in her home town of Burton on Trent in August. Members examined and admired discarded items ingeniously transformed into works of art. A wall hanging made of milk bottle tops, each transformed into a "Suffolk Puff" was a favourite and another made from discarded metal zips. We examined shopping bags made from the roof of a gazebo, knitted plastic bags, fused plastic (several layers of charity bags carefully ironed between sheets of paper) and even shoppers made from cat food sachets, washed, dried and stitched together in a style reminiscent of Andy Warhol. So much to look at and so much to hear, time passed quickly and Ilona was warmly thanked for an enthusiastic and entertaining evening. Ilona is a regular and enthusiastic blogger with many followers and can be found at

www.meangueen-lifeaftermoney.blogspot.co.uk Do have a look, you'll be amazed.



HIBALDSTOW W.I.

At the October meeting Margaret Borrill, wife of local farmer Arthur, gave a very interesting and informative talk about food. Here are **INSPIRING WOMEN** some of the many highlights that spring to mind.

An early harvest festival used to be celebrated at the beginning of the harvest. Lammas means loaf mass. Loaves of bread were made from the first crop of wheat. Nowadays the festival is celebrated at the end of the harvest. Its date can vary in different parts of the country.

The modern tradition of celebrating Harvest Festival in churches began in 1843 when the Reverend Robert Hawker invited parishioners to a special thanksgiving service at his church in Morwenstow, Cornwall.

The Victorians sang hymns such as 'We plough the fields and scatter' and 'Come ye thankful people come'. These hymns are still sung today.

Margaret gave us an insight into the changes in farming at Slate Farm. From 1962 when there were ten men farming 400 acres to nowadays when there are three people farming 1600 acres. From three cart horses, to tractors and other farm machinery. From dairy farming plus cattle and sheep as well as arable land, toa 60,000 duck unit run by two people. One modern invention that has made a lot of difference is the mobile phone. The farmer can keep in touch much more easily.

During her talk Margaret spoke about a visit she made to a factory producing burgers for McDonald's. She, and others in the group, were impressed by the guality of the meat used and the conditions in the factory. All meat was of a UK provenance and traceable. Starting with the 1950's Margaret gave a `run down' of the following `food decades'. After World War 2 rationing continued in Britain until 1954. Everybody cooked from scratch. Tea bags and fish fingers were introduced.

In the 1960's people shopped almost daily for food. Only 1 in 5 families had a fridge. Olive oil and garlic, that could be used for home cooking, began to appear in shops. Chinese and Indian restaurants started to appear on the High Street.

By the 1970's half of the population owned a freezer. You could pick your own raspberries and freeze them. Nowadays regulations make it less viable to run a 'pick your own'.

The 1980's saw an explosion of supermarkets. Ready meals were becoming very popular, even more so as microwave cookers were becoming more common. Pesto and coriander could be bought.

The emergence of celebrity chefs/cooks occurred from the 1970's. Hello to such as Fanny Cradock, Delia Smith, Keith Flovd and Jamie Oliver as well as many others.

The 1990's saw cookbook sales starting to rise. The Farmers' Market movement began and is still going strong today.

The decade of 'food porn' occurred in the 2000's. So many glossy pictures in cookbooks. Artisan foods, particularly bread, were readily available as were convenience foods. There was a growing concern for animal welfare.

This decade, the 2010's, has brought a growing concern for public health. There has been a rise in the popularity of vegetarian and vegan food.

Thank you Margaret for a very interesting evening.

We are **always** pleased to see **new** members **or** visitors so, if you fancy an evening of pleasant company and a varied programme, please get in touch! Contact:- Christine Laking on 01652 654536 or tmick1@talktalk.net

The University Centre at...



STUDY LOCALLY FOR A UNIVERSITY DEGREE!

We have a 20 year highly successful track record with students of ALL ages. 'Mature' students may be:

- Looking after dependent children or the elderly but wishing for intellectual stimulation
- Looking to improve job prospects or preparing for employment
- Early retired and wishing to study
- Seeking satisfaction through lifelong learning for pure interest and enjoyment and a love of reading

We have a range of university courses, available part time (as little as just one module per year) and full-time. Subjects include: English and History; Social Science; Business Studies; Childhood Studies; Computing; Sports and Health Studies and others.

The University Centre provides:

- an environment for adult students in buildings dedicated to higher education
- subject specialist lecturers and small teaching groups
- very high success rates

There are **no** 'up front' fees as anyone up to the age of 60 can apply for tuition fee loans. (Repayments only start after completing and only then if you are in employment and earning over £21,000/year)

COME AND JOIN OUR LEARNING COMMUNITY

For further information, please contact the University Centre Higher Education Information and Advice Office on 01724 294125 or he@northlindsey.ac.uk

CHRISTMAS DISPLAY



As in previous years, a Christmas display will be staged at 21 Woods Meadow, Hibaldstow. Ross Carrick has been busy getting his annual show ready over recent weeks and it will be illuminated at the front of the house from 1st - 25th December 4pm - 9pm every day. For those that want to make a donation, a collection bucket will be placed outside with all monies going to The Alzheimer's Society - a cause very close to Ross' heart having lost 2 of his Grandparents to the disease over the last 18 months.

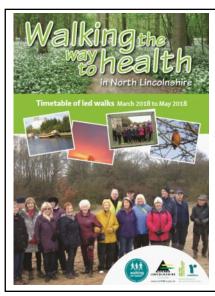
If you are visiting, please park with consideration for Woods Meadow residents.



The Brigg & District Committee of Macmillan Cancer Support will be holding a Christmas Prize Draw on Saturday 1 December at St John's Church Hall from 11am – 2pm. 1st prize is a £50 Love to Shop voucher which has kindly been donated by Humberside Airport; 2nd prize £25 cash and many

more fantastic prizes. There will be a number of local crafts people attending and we will be serving mince pies with teas and coffees. The Draw will take place at 1.30pm. You can buy Draw tickets either at The Bandstand in Brigg on Saturday 24 November or contact Gerry on 07538327139.

The Committee would like to thank anyone who has supported us throughout the year and we wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



WALKING THE WAY TO HEALTH

Everybody is welcome to join our free led walks, just turn up on the day! All walks are FREE and are no more than 3 miles.

The idea behind the walks is to improve health, you can take them at your own pace and make your heart beat a little faster.

For more information or a programme for walks in 2018 contact Christine Johnson 07717586380 or email christine.johnson@northlincs.gov.uk

Monday Pop-In



Each **Monday** morning from **9.30am** there is a pop-in coffee morning at **Hibaldstow Church Hall** where there is an **endless** supply of hot buttered teacakes and chat. **Everyone is welcome.** Some like to join in Morning Prayer in Church at 9.15am before joining those already in the Hall.

Rural Day Centre

We continue to meet every **Tuesday** at the **Village Hall** between **11.00am** and **2.00pm** with transport provided. For further details contact **Ruby** on **01652 654006**



Wednesday Morning Communion and Coffee

Each **Wednesday** morning at **10.00am** we have a said service of Holy Communion in Scawby Church with a brief thought for the day from the clergy.



The service lasts around half an hour and is followed by

coffee (or tea!), a biscuit and a chance to chat! New people are always welcome at his service. Why don't you try it?



The social group for people who can do craft work **and** talk at the same time meets each **Thursday** from **2.00pm** to **4.00pm** at **Mayscroft, Ings Lane.**

Why not come and join us?



LUNCHEON CLUB

Not really a club, just a group of local residents who enjoy going out for lunch.

We put the world to rights and air all our grievances whilst enjoying a two course meal and coffee for just £8.50.

We meet on the second Wednesday of the month at the Wheatsheaf and would love to hear from you. For more information ring **Bryan** on **01652 653754**



Looking for a venue to hire? Look no further! Hibaldstow **Church Hall** offers very competitive rates so do not hesitate

to get in touch. For more information contact:-Graham Ellwood on 01652 650896

Ta

graham.ell13@gmail.com or Stuart Duff on 01652 652120

HIBALDSTOW PARISH COUNCIL

Email: theparishcouncil@outlook.com

Website: http://hibaldstowparishcouncil.org.uk/

Parish Clerk: Deb Hotson Telephone: 0784 220 1877

1elephone: 0784 220 18

Planning Applications To view any planning applications, go to the North Lincolnshire Planning portal using the following website: - <u>http://www.planning.northlincs.gov.uk/plan/search/</u>

Ward: Ridge Parish: Hibaldstow

Planning Applications determined by North Lincolnshire Council are as follows: -

Application No	Details	Decision
2018/1270	Planning permission to raise land to create an all-terrain cycle track using inert waste and construct a single storey building to house reception/administration with showers and toilets at the Off-Road Centre, Gainsthorpe Road West	Granted
2018/1368	Planning permission to raise ridge height of dwelling and erect a two-storey extension and single storey extension height at 29 Redbourne Road.	Granted
018/1477	Planning permission to erect a two-storey rear extension at 11 Traffords Way.	Granted
2018/1754	Planning permission to erect a boundary wall and gates to front boundary and wall along part of the northern boundary at Thornfield, 23 Station Road.	Granted
2018/1763	Planning permission for a minor material amendment to PA/2018/15 for alternations to approve single storey extension at Hibaldstow Village Hall	Granted
2018/1789	Approval for all matters following the grant of outline application to erect a dormer bungalow on land to the rear of 24 Manton Lane	Granted

Any resident wanting to make representation at a Planning Committee must contact the relevant Case Officer detailed within the applications or by ringing 01724 296296 and asking for the Planning Dept.

Please be aware that the application for the Station Road development has been validated and is available to comment on the North Lincolnshire Planning Portal http://www.planning.northlincs.gov.uk/plan/search/

If you would like to make a comment this has to be submitted to NLC by 4th October, 2018. The application is PA/2018/1716 – outline planning permission for up to 48 residential dwellings with all matters reserved for subsequent approval.

Expenditure Parish Council expenditure detailed monthly.

<u>Month</u>	<u>Exp.</u>	Total Expenditure to Date for 2018/19 £50,298.95.
Sept 18	£966.17	
Oct 18	£1,735.50	
Nov 18	£38,487.33	

North Lincolnshire Council (NLC) Self Service portal

https://northlincs-self.achieveservice.com/module/home

By using the above link, you are now able to report any NLC issues via their portal – from pot holes, dog fouling, fly tipping to bin collections. Alternatively, you can ring on 01724 297000. If you have any concerns with regards to dogs, please contact the North Lincolnshire Council Dog Warden on 01724 297000.

Police Report

Please notify ALL non-emergency concerns to the Humberside Police by telephoning **101**. By doing this all complaints will be added to the statistics which will hopefully assist in future policing. To report crimes online via the Humberside Police <u>www.humberside.police.uk/report-a-crime</u>



Beckside with Northfield Mill in the background.

History Photo's provided by Graham Ellwood

The Gardeners Diary

As winter approaches it is still important to look after your outdoor potted plants. If they are in an exposed part of your garden it helps to group them all together in a sheltered area.

To help protect the pots from frost damage and the roots from water logging, it is a good idea to raise the pots off the ground on pot feet. If you haven't got any pot feet save the screw tops from milk bottles or similar and place three or four under each pot. If you are unsure how frost tolerant your pots are you could wrap them in bubble wrap too, and this insulates the roots as well, make sure not to cover over the plants with bubble wrap. Fleece can be wrapped round plants like young olive trees which are vulnerable if we get a really cold spell, and they are too big for your shed.



Plants that are not hardy such as bananas and pelargoniums should be placed in a greenhouse or shed for protection from frosts and winter wet. Also dahlia and begonia tubers.

It's still not too late to plant bulbs such as tulips in pots or the garden for spring colour, and winter flowering plants such as violas, but get them in as soon as you can.



As the trees loose all their beautiful autumn colour don't let leaves build up on your lawn, or on the garden especially on the crowns of perennial plants as this may cause rotting of the plants and dead patches on your lawn. Instead gather them up and either place them in the council bin, or if you have room compost them. Thin layers can be added to the compost heap or better still make leaf mould. Place the leaves in black plastic bags, and sprinkle with water if they are dry. Knot the bag and pierce a few holes in it. Put them in a corner and forget about them for a year. You will then find you have valuable material for mulching or a soil improver.

HIBALDSTOW HISTORY GROUP



At our October meeting we were fortunate to have one of our longstanding members and Chairperson, Pat Horton, give an extremely interesting and enlightening presentation on the history of Pingley Prisoner of War Camp. This camp on Bigby Road, Brigg, housed 750 low risk P.O.W's, mostly Italian but towards the end of the war also some Germans and by May 1946 the camp held 984 prisoners. By

1948 the prisoners had left and the camp was then used as an agricultural workers hostel and for emergency sheltered housing until the 1980's when it was closed. The camp survived in complete condition albeit in a derelict state until 2010 when it was demolished to make way for housing. We were grateful to Pat for such an informative presentation on the history of this camp on our doorstep.

In November 17 members visited the Heritage Centre at Gainsborough.

There will be no meeting in December and in January we shall have our annual meal. Would anyone who has not yet booked their place but who wishes to go please let Stan Smith know as soon as possible.

Looking ahead to 2019 our first meeting will be on the 21st February when we shall welcome Steve Stubbins who will share his photographs and historical knowledge of Appleby.

We wish all our members a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

HIBALDSTOW HISTORY:

Here's a few interesting history facts from around the village! (Thanks to Wendy for providing the details!)

The Church Hall on Church Street was originally made of iron. Built before 1900 on a site given by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, it was known as the 'Iron School, and used for the Sunday school and public meetings.

In the Hibaldstow Parish Award of 1803, Northfield Drain started at "Jenny Stanwell'sSpring" west of the Roman Road, then extended eastwards across the Roman Road and Manton Lane. From here it flowed through part of the village and across the Lincoln Turnpike Road, then through the village on the east of the Turnpike Road and so into Catchwater Drain. This is known as "The Beck"

The Nicholson family lived at Staniwells Farm, Hibaldstow for much of the 19th century.

In early times the western portion of the parish of Hibaldstow consisted largely of rabbit warrens.

Want to know what's happening in your neighbourhood?

Have you ever seen a police car pass by only to discover the road ahead is closed? Or heard a rumour about a run of crime on your street and wished you had known about it sooner?

My Community Alert is a new, free messaging system operated by Humberside Police, to help keep you updated about what is happening in your local area.

Choose how you receive messages, by phone or email, how often you want to hear from us and about the issues that matter to you.



Sign up for free at www.mycommunityalert.co.uk to start receiving real time updates now.





Serving our communities to make them safer and stronger

Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour in Hibaldstow – September 2018

There were 14 crimes reported in Hibaldstow during September, compared to 11 in August. The following is a brief summary of crime during September.

Arson & Criminal Damage

There were 5 arson and criminal damage offences reported in September:

- Other criminal damage on Brigg Road (x2) and at Gander Farm.
- Damage to a dwelling on Nookings Drive.
- Damage to a vehicle, also on Nookings Drive.

<u>Burglary</u>

There were 2 burglary business and community:

- Hibaldstow Village Hall, Station Road forced entry to the kitchen area and CCTV unit stolen.
- Hibaldstow War Memorial Club, West Street brick thrown through office window. Unknown if entry was gained.

Public Order Offences

There were 3 public order offences:

• Causing intentional harassment, alarm or distress on Manton Court (x2 linked to the ongoing neighbour dispute mentioned in the ASB section below) and Nookings Drive.

Vehicle Offences

There was 1 theft from a motor vehicle offence reported during September;

• Willow Farm, East Street – protective strip removed from door of Peugeot 1007. No attempt made to enter the vehicle.

Violence Against the Person

There were 3 violence against the person offences over the period:

- Common assault on Meadow Court.
- Harassment on Meadow Court and Manton Court (also linked to the ASB issue mentioned below).

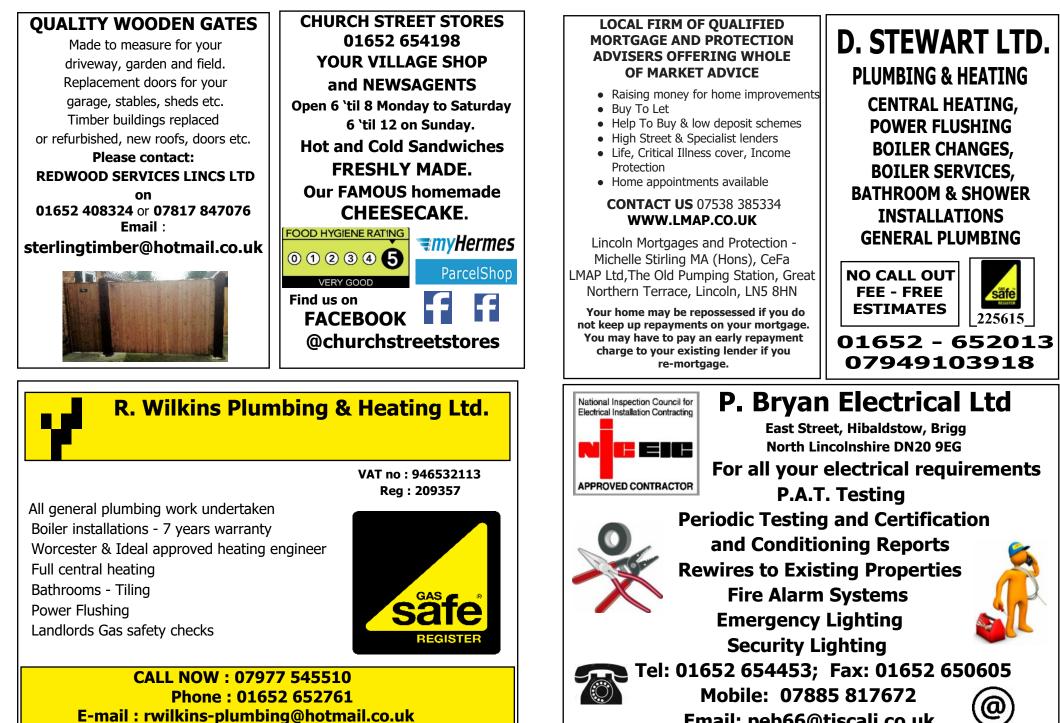
Anti-Social Behaviour

There was 2 ASB incidents reported in Hibaldstow during September, the same number of incidents as August.

- Ings Lane Further report of nuisance motorbikes on Ings Lane.
- Manton Court Further report of ongoing issues between neighbours.

If you'd like more information on any of the details provided above or would like to contact the local police about anything in the village please contact:

Kevin Horsfall (PCSO) Kevin.Horsfall@humberside.pnn.police.uk or Community Beat Manager for the Ridge Ward is Philip O'Neill Philip.ONeill@humberside.pnn.police.uk.



Email: peb66@tiscali.co.uk

E-mail: rwilkins-plumbing@hotmail.co.uk





December 2018 Article by Reverend David Eames

Christmas is coming and for many of us we'll be hearing again the story of Jesus' birth at the first Christmas, or watching children act it out. Some of us may even go back to the source of the story, the Bible. Of the 66

books in the Bible, the four Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke and John) tell us about Jesus' life, death and resurrection. But only two of them tell us about Jesus' birth. John simply tells us of the eternal Word becoming flesh and living among us, and Mark says nothing about Jesus' birth at all. But of the other two only Matthew tells us about the visit of the wise men, and only Luke tells us about the shepherds in the fields. The Christmas story we retell is a composite story bringing in elements from Matthew's and Luke's accounts.

However, the birth of Jesus is also described in the book of Revelation but this account is radically different from the Gospels. In Revelation 12:1-6 John tells us of a vision he had of a woman giving birth to a son who "will rule all the nations with an iron sceptre" - a quote from Psalm 2 which the Early Church saw as referring to Jesus. So far, so normal. But the woman is described as being "clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet and a crown of twelve stars on her head." Stranger still, instead of being surrounded by angels, shepherds and adoring magi, next to the woman stood "an enormous red dragon with seven heads and ten horns and seven crowns on its heads...so that it might devour her child the moment he was born." I'm yet to see a nativity play with this in!!

The book of Revelation is packed full of strange images and complex symbolism which can make it tough reading It also makes it fertile ground for lots of different groups to claim they know exactly how to interpret each and every detail. Always be wary of anyone who is certain they know what it all means!! For example, the woman obviously represents Mary, who gave birth to Jesus, but she also represents Israel (the twelve stars remind us of the twelve tribes of Israel); and Creation (sun and moon); and Eve whose 'seed' will crush the serpent's head (Genesis 3:15); and from verse 6 onwards, the Church. The dragon is a major character in Revelation and the symbolism of his appearance is explored in more detail as the book goes on, but there is a parallel here with King Herod who wanted to kill the infant Jesus but, like the dragon, fails (Matthew 2).

So what are we to make of this third 'nativity'? It reminds us that the birth of Jesus has a cosmic and eternal significance. It's easy to hear the Christmas story as being like a fairy tale, but the reality is that it is the pivotal event in the battle between good and evil (the overall theme of Revelation). The dragon wants to devour the child at his most vulnerable because it knows that the child would ultimately defeat it. Throughout Revelation and the rest of the New Testament we discover that this defeat happens through the death and resurrection of Jesus (Colossians 2:15).

This is why the shepherds, angels and wise men come to worship the child; they recognised the universechanging event that had taken place. As you hear again the Christmas story what will you hear: a fairy tale or the good news that the defeat of evil is now certain?

January 2019 Services

Regular Midweek Services:

Rogalar marcon e					
Mondays Tuesdays Wednesdays Thursdays	9.15am 8.30am 10.00am 10.00am	Morning Pray Morning Pray Holy Commu Holy Commu	yer union	Hibaldstow Scawby Scawby Broughton	
6th January		8.00am 9.15am 9.15am 10.45am	BCP Holy C Songs of Pra Holy Commu Family Serv	aise	Broughton <u>Scawby</u> <u>Hibaldstow</u> Broughton
13 th January		8.00am 9.15am 9.15am 10.30am	BCP Holy C Holy Comm Songs of Pro Covenant Se	union aise	<u>Hibaldstow</u> <u>Scawby</u> <u>Hibaldstow</u> Broughton Methodists
20th January		8.00am 9.15am 9.15am 10.45am	BCP Holy C Bible Servic Holy Commu Morning Pra	e union	Scawby Scawby Hibaldstow Broughton
27 th January		8.00am 9.15am 9.15am 10.45am	BCP Holy C Holy Commi Songs of Pra Holy Commi	union aise	Hibaldstow Scawby Hibaldstow Broughton





GREENFIELD PET SHOP

Food, Treats, Bedding, Toys etc for



Dogs, Cats and other small animals.



In stock, a LARGE range of wild bird feed

	Monday	09.00 - 18.00
Greenfield Farm	Wednesday	09.00 - 18.00
23 West Street	Thursday	14.00 - 16.00
Hibaldstow	Friday	09.00 - 18.00
DN20 9NY	Saturday	09.00 - 18.00
DNZU SNI	Sunday	10.00 - 16.00

Layers pellets, feeders, drinkers, mite powder etc



Friends of Hibaldstow Academy

Friends of Hibaldstow Academy are busy planning this year'sChristmas disco and Snacks with Santa. Snacks with Santa is taking place on Friday 14 December in the school hall. This popular fundraising event provides an opportunity for the children to meet Santa and make some reindeer food. There will also be hot drinks and cakes available to buy, Christmas

gifts for sale and we will be drawing our Christmas raffle. All welcome! If you would like to donate a raffle prize, please contact either Alison Howe (Chair) <u>alisonralph1@hotmail.com</u> or Helen Williams (Secretary) <u>hewilliams@lincoln.ac.uk</u>

Our recent Bag 2 School collection raised a fantastic £132.00. The next collection is scheduled for **Thursday 7 March** so please save your old clothes, shoes, handbags, etc. until then.

Finally, if you are doing your Christmas shopping online, please register with Easyfundraising and you could help raise funds without donating a penny! https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/fohibaldstowacademy/

Thank you for your continued support, Friends of Hibaldstow Academy <u>https://www.facebook.com/friendsofhibaldstowacademy</u>

Brigg Markets

Weekly Markets are held in Brigg on Thursday and Saturday, along with other annual charitable markets and fairs. Brigg Farmers Market is held in the Market place on the fourth Saturday of the month.





HIBALDSTOW ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY



We now meet on the last Wednesday of each month in the Methodist Hall on East Street, doors open at 7.15pm

DN20 9NY

Email:

September saw the return of Peter Rea for the second part of his Mars Talk. A really good night with astounding images including some in 3D.

We also had a stall at the Aviation Day with several telescopes on view. Plenty of interest was shown with some people coming especially to talk to us about problems with telescopes. All in all an excellent day.

B1st October Lee was going to cover Citizen Science Programmes. This talk will now be by Tony & will be a guide to Winter Observing instead

28th November Also sees the return of John Dunthorne's After Apollo Talk

Admission is £3 for non members & all are welcome.

For more information please contact Tony : hibaldstowastro11@gmail.com or call 01652 659839

For more information contact Tony on 01652 659839 or email ackland.tony@gmail.com



Do you need a reliable, local & affordable window cleaner?

We're now extending our rounds and taking on new customers in Hibaldstow

NEW Hassle-free Direct Debit option

01673 818814 / 07990 527241

Reach & wash window cleaning ensures no holes in lawns or flower beds and no damage to window sills or roof tiles

We don't just clean the glass, window frames & sills are cleaned at no extra cost!

Dovecote Close, Snitterby DN21 4AT visit www.purewaterwc.co.uk for more info



BRIGG, N. LINCOLNSHIR DN2081B

VENUE FOR HIRE STUNNING BALLROOM LOUNGE, BAR, KITCHEN AREAS



Weddings, Christenings, Family Celebrations, Community Meetings and Corporate Functions.

Call 07903531201 / 01652 659402 To arrange a personal viewing





33 West Street, Hibaldstow. Tel: 01652 655450 **Membership Rates**

The cost of joining is



£2.00 for senior citizens (of state pension age) **per year** and £3.00 for other members per year.

There is an initial administration charge of £1.50 and £2.00 respectively.

New members are always welcome — feel free to collect a membership form from behind the bar.









Room Hire is available at low rates Members Fee £25.00 and Refundable Cash Deposit of £75.00 Non-Members Fee £35.00 and Refundable Cash Deposit of £75.00

Sky Sports is available and two channels can be watched on different TVs in two rooms.





GREENFIELD TEAROOM

We serve a variety of home baked products, along with other snacks and light bites. Monday 10-5 Tuesday Closed Wednesday 10-5

Why not visit our familyThursdarun people and pet friendlyFridaytea room! We're on WestSaturdatStreet, Hibaldstow!Sunday

10:55 -11:30

13:40 - 14:10

14:15-14:35

14:40-15:40

15:45-16:05

Monday10-5TuesdayClosedWednesday10-5ThursdayClosedFriday10-5Saturday10-5Sunday10-4

Mobile Library – Hibaldstow Available every 3rd Monday.



- Station Road (Village Hall) 10:30-10:50
- Church Street
- St Albans Close
- Brigg Road (Lay-by)
- Ings Lane
- Manton Lane

St Hybald's Register

05/10/18 Funeral Dr Mike Edmonson - Jones

27/10/18 Wedding Carl Frederick Stothard & Samantha Jane Hoyes





If you have any events coming up (even if they've already happened) and you would like to let people know about them **please** contact us so that we can spread the news!

hibaldstowvillagevoice@gmail.com



Hibaldstow Annual Show of Horticulture, Bakery and Craft 2018

It was good to see so many excellent flower and exhibits at the Show following such a long, hot, dry spell of weather. The previous Sunday we were concerned the tables might be bare. As usual the exhibits in the bakery, craft and photography classes were of a high standard. Alas only one child entered the Children's classes. Well done and thank you to Charlotte Imms. After an absence of a few years it was welcome back to a long standing stalwart of the Show, and it was welcome to ten new names on the list of entrants.

Many thanks to the members of the committee who organised the Show and to their families and friends who helped to set up, and later to clear up. The Show couldn't go on without you. Another big thank you, this time to Pam White who kept the committee members, helpers and judges fed and watered throughout the day. She also organised refreshments for visitors to the Show. The judges come from outside the village. Front gardens, tubs and hanging baskets, as well as overall gardens if entered, were judged by John Fagge from Ferriby who was impressed by the standard of gardening in Hibaldstow.

Hibaldstow Parish Council very kindly replaced the somewhat jaded Parish Council Cup for the Best Front Garden (mixed planting) with a shield. This was presented for the first time by David Charlton, Hibaldstow Parish Councillor. He also presented the other cups, shields and trophies. Thank you to all exhibitors and visitors who made the Show a very enjoyable one, and thank you to the weather. A week later and it rained all day.

Date of next year's Show – Sunday, 21st. July 2019.

Photograph topics for next year: Hibaldstow, Your own choice, Birds or Sweets.

Hibaldstow Gardening Club(HGC) Show Results 2018

Spring and Summer Gardens 2018

SPRING GARDEN(Margaret Sheppard Shield) 2nd18 Woods Meadow –Mr and Mrs 3rd12 Barley Close–**Mr and Mrs Rose** 2nd8 Brigg Road -**Mr and Mrs Clark** 1st18 Woods Meadow- Mr and Mrs Wilson

FRONT GARDEN MIXED PLANTING (Parish Council Shield) 3rd33 Beckside- Mr and Mrs Sheppard 2nd10 Beckside –**Mr and Mrs Adcock** 1st37 Meadowcourt –Mr and Mrs Rothwell

FRONT GARDEN BEDDING

(William J. Sargent Cup)

HANGING BASKET (Sheppard Cup) 3rd20 Hopfield – Audrey Stevenson

Wilson

1st3 Meadow Court – Neil Groves and Tracey Thompson

BEST TUB (Audrey Stevenson Cup) 3rdMayscroft, Ings Lane -Val Maycock 2nd20 Hopfield -Audrey Stevenson 1st24 Greenfield – Kenneth White and Rita Parkinson

OVERALL GARDEN

(Hibaldstow Gardening Club Cup)

3rd12 East Street – Mr and Mrs Jury3rd12 East Street – Mr and Mrs Jury 2nd18 Woods Meadow – Mr and Mrs Wilson2nd37 Meadowcourt – Mr and Mrs Rothwell 1st20 Hopfield- Audrey Stevenson1st29 Hopfield -Audrey Stevenson

Article from Revd Nichola Jones

Dear Friends

It's started already with the theme for Christmas celebrations being dominated by the market: "Spend on this, spend on that. Feed well. Give umpteen presents: make them even better than last year. Make sure you spend more than last year too!"

The Church has a very different emphasis - in her worship and her life, she wants to say -"At Christmas let's delight in the absolutely fabulous news about the sort of God who does indeed run this world. Three cheers for the gospel at the heart of this wonderful season!"

After all, there are many times when God seems far away, up in some remote heaven, detached from our day-to-day lives. NOT SO! God is closer to us than our own heartbeats.

There are some times when we feel deeply soiled by life, by our frail bodies, by the common muck of much mundane existence. THAT NEED NOT BE! For the God we believe in is wrapped up in the ordinary, the grittiness, the muddles that are our lot. God comes to us through a smelly manger in the backyard of a pub. God is gloriously close to us, caught up with us, in love with us.

But ah- the television news last night. What a ghastly long sequence of one desperate situation after another; umpteen crimes here, there, everywhere; tragedies galore; with chaos in the nation's politics. It seems grim and wretched. And there so many apparently hopeless situations. "NOT SO," says the Church.

Built into the total life of the whole wide world is the most profound hope of all, the plain clear Word from God - that Word says that a better world can be possible and speaks of a very lively, involved God who always does good things and sends a little tiny helpless baby as the greatest imaginable sign and whispers, "Look, Christ is here! Look up! Look out! Here is really good news!"

My goodness, what news there is to delight in!

So have a good Christmas by revelling in that baby sent by God and think of all that Christ. arows up to do for us and the whole vast and wonderful world.

Happy Christ's mass indeed.

Blessings and joy

Nichola

The Revd Nichola Jones

Superintendent Minister

with Pastoral charge of Hibaldstow Methodist Church