

STALHAM NEWS

Issue 81:

November/December 2016

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Reg. Charity No: 1108151

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76-82 High Street, Stalham, NR12 9AS
Tel: 01692 581775

THANK YOU to the Exors of Mr Roger Green and Mr Ivan Kidd and to Stalham Baptist Church's pop up cafes for their kind donations to the Poppy Centre Trust appeal.

Annual General Meeting – our A.G.M. will be held at 7 p.m. on Thursday 24 November 2016, in the Church Rooms. All welcome.

BUILDING UPDATE

As advised in our September update, we are now saving specifically for the ground source heat pump and bore holes which will cost £80,000 to complete the heating system to the building. We have now set aside £19,000 towards this target leaving us with £61,000 still to raise. All donations received from now on are added to this target.

POPPY CENTRE CHARITY SHOP

The shop has now raised in excess of £290,000 toward the Poppy Centre building project.

FREE OR SMALL DONATION APPRECIATED

We also have an ongoing variety of sheets, duvet covers and curtains which have not sold and are not collected by our recycling agent. Therefore they would make great dust sheets for any building/decoration works you might be doing. Please ask in the shop.

POLITE NOTICE

Please do not leave donated items outside the shop when it is closed. If it rains they get damaged and we have to put them in our bins, we have also been made aware of items being left but taken by people who might be passing the shop. Please note our opening hours are 0900 – 1600 Monday to Saturday.



*If you wish to contribute to our newsletter please write to: Stalham News c/o Poppy Centre Charity Shop, 76-78 High Street, Stalham, Norfolk, NR12 9AS or telephone 01692 581775 or email the editor **raywoolston@hotmail.com**.
Copy deadline for the next issue is 22nd December.*

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Message from County Councillor Nigel Dixon

The Financial Challenge and Council Tax Pressures on Norfolk County Council.

NCC faces a huge budget challenge for several future years because it's had to cope with reducing central government funding and rising demand, particularly in Children's Services (education and care) and Adult (social) Services. To compound the problem, the political Administration from May 2013 to May 2016 failed to recognise the need to find effective

solutions to the underlying causes and instead allowed budgets to overspend and it relied on General Reserves (meant to fund unforeseen needs) to routinely meet the funding shortfall. Effort should have been made to reform management systems, redesign services and develop new income streams in past years. Also, simply throwing money at problems doesn't address the causes nor is it sustainable unless you reduce costs or generate new income to balance the books. The new Administration, since May 2016, has found that £20m has been raided from the Reserves recently and current year budgets are heading for a circa £20m overspend if nothing is done to arrest the slide and hold Officers to agreed budget spending limits. You may recall NCC raised its share of Council Tax for the current year (2% for Adult Services + 1.99% for other needs) so I will press for remedies to be found which don't increase Council again next year.

Devolution (Devolving Central Government Responsibilities to Local Government)

You may recall, this is about the opportunity to transfer important decisions about housing, health, transport infrastructure, economic development and other key functions from Central Government to a more local level (County & District Councils) to help reflect local needs and constraints. Since my last mention of this topic, you may be aware of media announcements that 4 of the 8 Councils in Norfolk didn't think the Devolution deal offered was credible or good enough to be put out to public consultation and thus have declined to participate in the offer. The other 4 Councils voted to consult the public and this was done during Jul/Aug. The results indicate the majority of the public were against the deal although most businesses were for the deal. While the vast majority supported the principle of Devolution only a minority supported an elected Mayor to lead the new Combined Authority. The prevailing view of the public was against forming another layer of joint administration with Suffolk and sceptical about whether the money on offer in the deal was either new or would actually be delivered during the 30 year life of the deal. However, the business community was much more optimistic and keen to access new funding. Each of the 4 supporting Councils now have to decide whether they wish to part take in the joint deal with Suffolk, all of whose Councils appear to be supporting the deal. NCC meets on 21 Nov to decide whether to continue to support the deal. Currently, I can't support it because of the elected Mayor, adding another layer of Administration and cost and the lack of clarity and credibility over the funding offered, especially considering the 30 year period of the deal. In politics, 5 years is a long time! Even if NCC decides to continue to support the deal central government may decide to withdraw it because not enough Councils agreed to support it. So, there's much doubt over whether this will happen. The theory sounds attractive but the practice is likely to fall well short. I will give a further update at the Dec meeting of Stalham Town Council, and in this newsletter, as the situation unfolds.

I welcome your views on these and any other issues. My contact details are as follows:-
Tel 783885 or e mail: nigel.dixon@norfolk.gov.uk or NigeINDD@aol.com.

WANTED FOR THE POPPY SHOP

- Second hand furniture (upholstered must be after 1988 and have safety labels)
- **Good** working order electrical items, including fridges, freezers, etc.
- Clothes (any condition) • Books (any condition) • Bric a brac
- Basically anything you no longer need, which may be of use to someone else but **please good condition – we are not a substitute for the local dump!**
Even though we are nearer!

Sorry, we do not take Small Electrical Items, Computer Printers or Video Tapes.

Please note all our staff are volunteers, and we may need 1 – 2 weeks notice for collections and deliveries depending on space available in the shop. Please also note that larger items for delivery or collection need to be accessible, with no stairs, steps or narrow entrance spaces.

Occasionally we are unable to accept everything on offer because of our limited space especially if we are inundated with car loads of donations.

We do try but, in this instance, other charity shops in Stalham might be able to take the goods. We hope you understand.

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Stalham Town Hall

We would like to wish everyone a Happy Christmas and a Happy New Year 2017

The Town Hall management committee would like to thank everyone that has hired and supported the events in the hall this year, also thank you to the Town Council for their support and Tesco's for donating a Blender for a raffle prize plus mugs for our kitchen. The painting of the exterior of the hall has now been completed; which has greatly improved the look of the hall. We still have a long way to go, in getting all the much needed repairs done, with your help in hiring the hall and supporting the events we can continue with the work that needs to be done. All our regular events in November & December – **Various markets; Slimming World; Good Fellowship Over 55's Club; Zumba Class; Bowls Club; Town Council Open Mornings**

New regular event on Wednesday evenings at 7 pm from 2nd November **Yoga for All**

Other events in November

On the Saturday 19th November **Casino Night** (Poppy Centre Charity) **7- 10 pm**

On Monday 21st November **Bingo (Guide Dogs) 7pm**

On Sunday 27th November **Craft Fair from 11 am**

On Tuesday 29th November we are holding a **Charity Market** if you would like to raise money for your charity or club and would like a table to sell goods please contact the booking secretary.

December Events

On Saturday 3rd December Beacon Church event 7.30 pm

On Sunday 4th December Street Events Christmas Fair

If you would like to hold an event in the Town Hall please call the Booking Secretary Phyl Eden 01692 582170

More volunteers needed for Stalham Foodbanks.

Having successfully opened a new distribution centre in Stalham last year Cromer and District Foodbank is appealing for additional volunteers. "Volunteers are the life blood of our foodbank," says Ella King, Project Manager, "Volunteering offers a chance to make a real difference to the lives of local people in financial crisis."

Founded in 2012, the foodbank now works with over 90 partner agencies and met more than a thousand requests for food in the last financial year.

The Charity offers food, support and signposting across 200 square miles of North Norfolk.

"125 volunteers help us get emergency food to people in real need," Ella says. "We want people to enjoy volunteering and there are lots of ways to get involved."

If you are able to help please contact Ella by email: info@cromerdistrict.foodbank.org.uk or telephone (07826 376343).



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Stalham in Bloom

The baskets in the High Street have now been taken down for another year and the planters outside the Library, Coop Funeral Services and the Sun & Beauty Rooms have been planted up with spring bulbs. Planning is well under way for next year. New, bigger baskets are to be purchased and whilst no particular colour scheme is being planned it is intended to put on a colourful, bright display. As the weather gets colder and the clocks go back it's rather nice to be thinking and planning for next Spring. On **SATURDAY 10th DECEMBER** 9 am to 1 pm there will be a **SALE** in the **TOWN HALL** of bulbs, plants and a variety of other things - ideal for Christmas presents! Donations of plants etc will be gratefully received on the morning of the sale. Look out for Stalham in Bloom's decorated Christmas tree in St Mary's Church in the High Street. We are a small, friendly group helping to make Stalham a brighter place and new members and offers of help are always welcome. Our next meeting is our AGM on Friday 10th February 2017 at 11.00 a.m. at The Swan public house. Please contact Flicka Henwood, Chairman on 584298 for more details.

SMALL BUSINESS

SATURDAY
3RD DECEMBER

Small Business Saturday – 3rd December 2016

Members of the Stalham Area Business Forum (SABF) are promoting Small Business Saturday on 3rd December. Business owners – please register online (to sign up to the 'Small Business Finder' and receive your marketing pack) – it's free and takes no more than a couple of minutes! The media will be informed of what is going on in Stalham on this day – we are attempting to have the highest concentration of businesses in the country.

The SABF are encouraging the residents of Stalham and surrounding areas to support independent traders on this day in particular – shops taking part will display an official Small Business Saturday blue poster and window sticker, and may be offering special offers and goodies for customers too!

We look forward to the town being awash with blue posters and people on Saturday 3rd December! Let's support Stalham's small businesses and give them the recognition they deserve!



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Health and Wellbeing For All Stalham Community Gym



Stalham Community Gym is a Registered Charity No 1157745

Please help us to keep our gym open

To raise much needed funds Stalham Community Gym is holding a sponsored 'pedal for pounds' fundraising event in conjunction with Barclays Bank who are match funding £ for £ up to a max. of £1000

**'Pedal for Pounds' – Thursday 24th November from 10.30 am
Barclays Bank, Wroxham**

This fundraiser is desperately needed to keep our Community Gym open. Please help us achieve our target of raising £1000 in sponsorship so that Barclays Bank will match us.

More information and sponsor forms available from Paul at the gym.

*Stalham Community Gym meet at the Baptist Church Hall
Mondays and Thursdays 9 am – 2 pm and Tuesdays 5 pm – 8 pm*

New members offer - first month free on joining

Contact our Fitness Professional Paul O'Connell on 07910 748111

STALHAM TOWN COUNCIL NEWS

Officers from Stalham Safer Neighbourhood team are issuing a reminder to road users after receiving several complaints about inconsiderate parking and cyclists in Stalham.

Please remember that the Highway Code states the following . . .

Please be **DO NOT** stop or park:

- near a school entrance
- anywhere you would prevent access for Emergency Services
- at or near a bus or tram stop or taxi rank
- opposite or within 10 metres (32 feet) of a junction, except in an authorised parking space
- near the brow of a hill or hump bridge
- opposite a traffic island or (if this would cause an obstruction) another parked vehicle
- where the kerb has been lowered to help wheelchair users and powered mobility vehicles
- in front of an entrance to a property
- on a bend

You **MUST NOT** park on a road at night facing against the direction of the traffic flow unless in a recognised parking space.

PCSO Jeanette Boardman said: “The Highway Code applies to all road users including pedestrians, cyclists and riders. Cutting the number of deaths and injuries that occur on our roads every day is a responsibility we all share. Please be mindful that although Enforcement of on-street parking restrictions, including yellow lines and time-limited spaces, is now carried out by Civil Enforcement Officers managed by local councils, parking obstructions are still dealt with by the Police.”

Cyclists are also reminded that cycling on the pavement is illegal. If caught, a cyclist can face a £50 Fixed Penalty Notice given to them by the Police.

ALLOTMENTS IN STALHAM

Have you ever thought about growing your own food?

Stalham Town Council has an allotment garden with 26 plots.

The annual rent is £27.50 for a whole plot and some plots are smaller.

There is currently a short waiting list so if you are interested please contact the Clerk – Susan clerk@stalhamtowncouncil.org for more details or to put your name on the list. This facility is only available for residents of Stalham.

NEW COUNCILLOR

Mrs. Liz Wilson, who lives on the new development off Ingham Road has joined the Council.

Contact details for the Town Council: Clerk Susan Wellerd. Tel: 01692 670531

email: clerk@stalhamtowncouncil.org

Address: Flint House. Low Road. Repps with Bastwick, NR29 5AH.

website: <https://stalhamtowncouncil.wordpress.com/>

Elizabeth F. Jackson writes:

Many thanks to all those very generous people who attended the Fish and Chip Quiz Night organised by the Stalham Town Council in aid of the Defibrillator Appeal. A grand total of £455 was raised. Thanks to Phil and Glynn our excellent quizmasters and Richardson's and all the other companies and attractions who provided some excellent raffle prizes.

This was an impressive occasion when over 80 generous individuals from our town came together to raise funds for this much needed community resource. This was Stalham community again at its best. Congratulations to all those involved in any way, especially the winning team. Regrettably, not mine!

ST. MARY'S CHURCH NEWS

Keep an eye out for the new illuminated cross on top of the Church Tower. This will replace the old one which had to be withdrawn from service due to natural wear and tear and has been sadly missed by many in our community. Many thanks to the anonymous donor who has generously donated the money for the replacement. We are all **very** grateful.

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

Don't leave it too late to book! The annual Community Christmas Tree Festival will once again be held in St. Mary's Church from Saturday December 3rd. to Sunday December 11th. It's always a very colourful and festive occasion. If your group, business or organisation would like to participate this year please contact Emma Lawrence (580250) or Elizabeth Jackson (581389) for more details.

CHRISTMAS ACTIVITY MORNING

Monday December 19th 10.30 a.m.– 12 noon

Arts / Crafts / Food / Music / Story

Free Admission.

All children welcome.

Adults are also welcome for refreshments and to watch the fun!



STALHAM STREET EVENTS COMMITTEE

Once again, the Street Events Committee will be holding its annual Christmas Street Fair along the High Street on **Sunday 3rd December** in the afternoon, 2 – 5 p.m. Santa will be in the Town Hall to see the boys and girls whilst his reindeer are parked up on the Town Hall Roof! All the usual festive stalls will be there including the ever popular Raffle Stall, Rides and lots more). The ever popular Christmas Tree Exhibition at St. Mary's Church will be open for visitors to view. If you are interested in having a stall at the Fair, please Contact Ester on 01692 581622.



STALHAM SPORTS CENTRE



Available for hire: Every Weekday Evening from 6 pm to 10 pm and at Weekends and School Holidays from 9 am to 8 pm. Our sports facilities at The High School are available for hire all year round by Clubs, Organisations and Private Hire Groups.

Sports facilities

- A 32m x 17m sports hall – you can hire for football, basketball, roller skating, martial arts and more. **£25 per hour.**
- A floodlit artificial grass pitch – the five-a-side football pitch is perfect for football training or casual games. **£25 per hour.**
- Four floodlit hard tennis courts with racket and ball hire. **£2.50** per person per hour
- Four badminton courts for casual and club players. **£10 per court per hour.**

To Book: To find out more or to book just call 01692 580864 or go to our Facebook page: [facebook.com/stalhamsportscentre](https://www.facebook.com/stalhamsportscentre)



Stalham Town Hall BIG SCREEN CINEMA



'Suffragette' 12 - Fri 4th November

Maud is a working mother drawn into the fight for women's rights. Fired from her job. Thrown out on the street and banned from seeing her son. The suffragettes rally round. (Best Film of the Year 2015)

ADMISSION FREE but Donation of £4 on door

REFRESHMENTS FREE! £1 RAFFLE!

Film starts 7 p.m. doors open 6.30 p.m.

NEXT FAMILY FILM 2nd DEC STARTS 6 P.M

(£4.00 AdMISSION) £2.00 Child Including Free Bar of Chocolate

'Willie Wonka and the Chocolate Factory'

NO FILM IN JANUARY - February 3rd - Dads Army

More Details ring Elizabeth Jackson 581389

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or

emma4smith@yahoo.co.uk



CASINO NIGHT

Saturday 19th November

7 p.m. – 10 p.m.

Entry by Ticket only (£10) available
from the Poppy Shop or the Editor
which includes Jacket Potato with
various fillings and Apple Crumble
Tea or Coffee + 50 Playing 'Chips'.
Bring your own alcoholic drinks.

**6 people 'cashing out' with highest
number of chips wins prizes.**

All proceeds to Poppy Centre

STALHAM'S NOSTALGIC RAILWAY CALENDAR JUST £4.95 WOULD MAKE A GREAT CHRISTMAS PRESENT



12 Photos bringing the old station back to life!

Available from The Poppy Shop and Forrests Newsagents.

At least £1 from each sale will go to the Poppy Centre Charity.

Copies of the books *Stalham Then and Now*, *Stalham Glimpses of the Past*
and *Stalham's Forgotten Railway* are still available priced at £7.95 each

RINGWORD COMPETITION – WIN A £15 TESCO VOUCHER

Find and ring in grid opposite the **FRUIT** names below and find the missing one not on the list, put form in an envelope add your name, address and phone number and send or drop into the Poppy Shop by December 12th. First correct out of the hat wins.

**PINEAPPLE APPLE PLUM PEAR CHERRY GRAPE KIWI
STRAWBERRY RASPBERRY MANGO MELON FIG ORANGE**

The missing word is _____

Name : _____

Address: _____

Telephone No: _____

**APOLOGIES FOR THE ERROR IN PRINTING THE
WRONG GRID IN THE LAST STALHAM NEWS.**

P	O	V	F	R	E	T	S	E	M	I	W
R	I	T	L	O	P	G	L	P	O	C	H
A	R	N	I	D	I	P	C	A	A	K	Y
S	F	H	E	F	P	Q	J	R	P	E	R
P	M	O	R	A	N	G	E	G	R	O	R
B	E	M	U	L	P	C	B	A	I	L	E
E	L	B	O	K	R	P	K	A	C	G	B
R	O	K	N	T	W	E	L	G	O	E	W
R	N	A	O	G	N	A	M	E	T	I	A
Y	I	C	H	E	R	R	Y	C	W	O	R
C	T	J	A	V	B	M	D	I	N	R	T
W	C	R	O	L	E	A	K	F	E	L	S

STALHAM & DISTRICT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

On Saturday 3rd September, Stalham & District Horticultural Society held their Annual Autumn Show at Stalham High School. The hall looked stunning with a mass of colour from the numerous dahlia exhibits, flowering pot plants and flower arrangements. Brian Cogan was in a dominant mood & won Most Points in Section pot Plants, Most Points in section Fruit & Vegetables, Best in section Cut Flowers and Most Points in Show! A wonderful haul for all his efforts. Tim Taylor swept the board in the Wine classes winning Most Points in Section, with Fred Jolly winning Best in Section for his wine. Numerous fruit & vegetable entries saw Stuart Ross winning Best in for the first time, a well done to him. Margaret Wait won Most Points in Section for Cookery with first time entrant Philip Dalzell won Best in Section and Best in Show Non-Horticulture for his outstanding preserve. Claudia Makepeace won Best in Section and Best in Show Horticulture for her collection of three beautiful flowering orchids. Craft classes saw a first time win of Best in Section for John Howard &* his painting & Susan Carter won Most Points in Section for her numerous entries. Joanna Berry won Most Points in Section for her Cut Flowers, Best in Section Floral Art, Most Points in Floral Art and finished as Runner Up to Brian Cogan for Most Points in Show. Other winners included Tracy Chapman who won the Peoples' Choice Award (voted for by the visitors) for her dramatic flower arrangement in a pumpkin & Roy Lawrence who won the Spud in A Bucket competition with a weight of 7lb! Children's entries were consistent with Lucas Pimble, Layla Pimble & Katie Makepeace winning Most Points in Show and Best in Show in their respective age groups. For pictures of this show please see our website <http://www.stalhamhorticultural.co.uk> Our next show is on Saturday 1st April in the same venue with free entry & it will be open to the public from 2 pm.

*The Poppy Centre Trust Committee would like to wish all the Stalham News readers **A Very Merry Christmas and A Happy and Healthy New Year** and would like to take this opportunity to thank all the volunteers who work tirelessly in the Poppy Shop and all those kind people for their donations, without which we would have no shop.*