

Parish Update

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Make a difference while making new friends



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Savy Food goes top of SK Pioneers menu

Georgian Festival programme unveiled

Tickets are now on sale for Stamford's second Georgian Festival in September.

A packed programme has been unveiled by organisers SKDC with a bigger emphasis on entertainment right through the weekend and later into Saturday evening.

Highlights will include a return for the ever-popular Horrible Histories, with a new Barmy Britain show in the Corn Exchange direct from the West End, a talk by top TV historian Lucy Worsley, a costume ball and an impressive mail coach and horses taking passengers through Burghley Park.

Stamford's infamous Bull Run will again take centre stage thanks to

international carnival specialists Shademakers.

Schools and community groups are taking part in a major project involving the processional aspect of Saturday's programme, with a Georgian costume-making workshop in August.

Markets will enliven the streets on both weekend days with encampments and Georgian traders on The Meadows and the Town Hall will be open for tours to show off its unrivalled collection of civic memorabilia.

Mock trials are set to re-ignite the harshness of the Georgian legal system, with a re-enactment in the Town Hall's old courtroom of the

1749 trial of Elizabeth Taylor, flogged for stealing clothes.

Producers the Galleries of Justice will supply two actors to stage a family show to involve children in rolling back the years!

The festival has a melodic start on Thursday evening (24 September) with a choral concert in St John's Church commemorating the late Georgian era of Admiral Lord Nelson and the Battle of the Nile. The popular Burghley Voices, with soloist and orchestra, will be conducted by Fergus Black.

On Friday night, Lucy Worsley, TV presenter and Chief Curator at the Historic Royal Palaces will speak at the Arts Centre as an official curtain raiser, followed by a Georgian Costume Ball.

Lucy is well known for fronting programmes like Dancing Cheek to Cheek with Strictly's Len Goodman and several BBC 4 series on historical topics including The First Georgians.

Browne's Hospital's picturesque almshouses will stage short performances from the Shoestring Theatre, with costume character John White again entertaining visitors.

Weekend activities include a fashion show, walking tours, antique book fair, organ recital at Burghley House and a patchwork and quilting workshop to stitch a festival legacy.



Mock trial: children will be invited to help re-create an actual Georgian trial from 1749.

Grantham top of commuter survey for house affordability

Grantham has come top in a national commuter survey as the country's most affordable place to live within a 60-90 minute rail journey time from London.

A major Daily Telegraph survey compared property prices across four journey time brackets from 15 minutes through to 120 minutes from an office in the capital.

Research by Savills on 13 key commuter routes showed that house buyers moving out of London can save as much as £2,610 on a price of a home for every extra minute they travel.

Grantham, with its annual season ticket price of £6,928, scored highly in its commuting bracket via the new Virgin Trains East Coast network.

Grantham's average property price was quoted at £146,397. The most expensive place in the same 60-90 minute travel bracket was Shawford in Hampshire, where the average property price is £489,990.

Specific prices cited were a Victorian terrace house available for £180,000 and a three bedroom stone house for £225,000, all within walking distance of the station.

The newspaper quoted Janie O'Shea, residential sales at Fine and Country

Grantham office as saying: "People are missing a trick if they don't know about it. We are an hour and ten from London Kings Cross, parking is good and the station guards are very old-school and friendly."

She added: "You are getting so much more for your money in and around Grantham compared to the south east or London on a square foot basis. This triangle we sit in between Stamford, Sleaford and Grantham is so pretty and something to rave about. It's a hidden gem."

There was more to boast about, said the Telegraph, stating: "Gorgeous countryside and two good grammar

schools, Kesteven and Grantham Girls and King's for boys. The most famous alumna of the former is probably Margaret Thatcher. The most famous alumnus of the latter is undoubtedly Isaac Newton."

Steve Ingram, South Kesteven District Council strategic director for development and growth said: "This reinforces the fact that South Kesteven is within easy reach of London and acts as the gateway to the rest of Lincolnshire with an affordable local housing market and a very high quality of life.

"Clearly there are not many easy-to-reach places that offer such an attractive combination."



Declarations of interests

Clerks to parish and town councils are being asked to remind councillors of the need to complete the form of Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests following the recent elections.

Copies must be forwarded to Democratic Services at South Kesteven District Council, Council Offices, St. Peter's Hill, Grantham, Lincs NG31 6PZ for the attention of Jo Toomey (j.toomey@southkesteven.gov.uk). By virtue of the Localism Act 2011, the district council is obliged to publish the interests registered on its website.

Dog owners reminded to clean up after their pets

Dog owners are being reminded to clean up after their pets and take used dog bags home to deposit them in their black bins or pink bags to help keep South Kesteven cleaner and greener.

Disposing of the waste correctly helps to avoid members of the public and children coming into contact with it and keep the threat of Toxocarasis, which can blind, at bay.

If used bags cannot be taken home, dog owners can deposit them in South Kesteven's public litter bins.

SKDC's business manager for neighbourhoods Mark Jones said:

"The majority of dog walkers are very responsible and always pick up after their animals and deposit the bags correctly.

"We are appealing to the minority who do not pick up after their pets to think of the eyesore it leaves in their communities and the health complications for anyone who comes into contact with it."

To report dog fouling issues call SKDC on 01476 40 60 80 or at www.keepskclean.co.uk

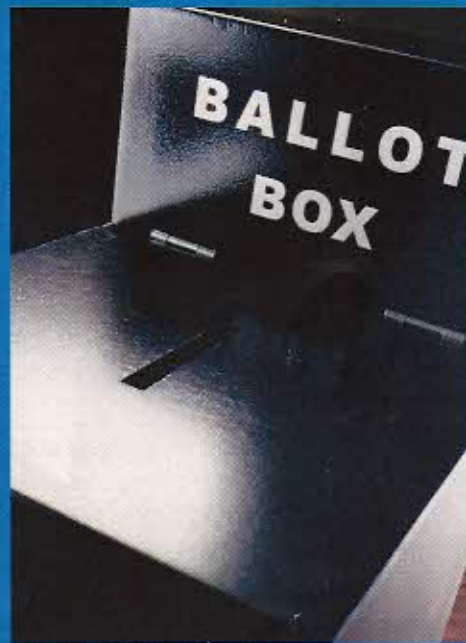
SKDC election results

The Conservative party on South Kesteven District Council holds 44 seats following the 7 May election.

A group of four Independent members were also voted onto SKDC, Labour has three seats, and an unaligned Independent member and a UKIP member have one seat each.

Voting in the Market and West Deeping ward was postponed following the death of former council chairman Cllr Reg Howard. This election will take place on 25 June.

A recent electoral review resulted in changes to the number of wards and councillors. The district now has 30 wards and the total number of councillors will be 56, serving for a period of four years.



Results for the Grantham and Stamford Parliamentary Constituency

Nick Boles (Conservative)
28,399 votes - elected

Marietta King (UK Independence Party) 9,410

Barrie Fairbairn (Labour) 9,070

Harrish Bisnauthsing (Liberal Democrat) 3,263

Aidan Campbell (Green) 1,872

Ian Selby (Independent) 1,017

Jan Hansen (Lincolnshire Independents) 724

Always ask to see waste collectors' licences

Householders are being asked to check waste carriers' licences when having household or garden waste collected from their property.

Residents clearing large volumes of

items in a spring clean of their homes or gardens should always ask to see a Waste Carriers' collectors licence issued by the Environment Agency.

Once waste leaves your home or

premises it is your responsibility to check the service you use holds a Waste Carrier's licence and where the waste will be disposed of to avoid committing an offence.

For scrap metal collectors, householders need to ask to see documentation that is issued by SKDC.

SKDC's executive manager for environment Ian Yates said: "If you're having a house or garden clearance simply ask the company you employ to show you their licence and check where your items will be deposited.

"This way you can do your part to avoid unlicensed carriers fly-tipping in the district or elsewhere.

"Most businesses are diligent and will not hesitate to show you documentation on request. It is an offence for collectors to fail to display a licence, so make the necessary checks for peace of mind you're using a reputable business."

If residents are approached by an unlicensed waste or scrap metal collector they should contact SKDC on 01476 40 60 80.

New film highlights homelessness

The Lincolnshire Homeless Strategy Group, on behalf of South Kesteven District Council and the other councils across the county, have commissioned a short film to be produced about youth homelessness.

The film titled 'Choices' highlights some of the myths surrounding youth homelessness and guides young people to help and support.

Lincolnshire Homelessness Strategy Group Co-ordinator, Celia Bown, said that the film is a great way of showing how serious youth homelessness can be.

"The film examines some of the different reasons young people become

homeless and encourages them to think about the choices they make and the consequences," she said.

"I would urge anyone to think twice before leaving home and to seek help and support, where possible."



The film is available on YouTube and Vimeo at the following links:

• Vimeo - <https://vimeo.com/123824570>

• YouTube - <https://youtu.be/ykZJAITjzyM>

Red tape cut for village halls

A raft of cuts in red tape will make it easier for community buildings to be the social heart of their communities.

Community Lincs says major changes to government regulations on entertainment licensing which came into force on April 6, have reduced the burden on community building committees.

It says committees now face less paperwork when it comes to putting on events, plays, performances and social evenings which pull communities together.

The charity, part of the ACRE (Action with Communities in Rural England) network, runs a dedicated advice service for community building management committee members.

Research by ACRE, the national voice for England's rural community councils, shows that alongside traditional activities such as youth clubs, Women's Institute, gardening clubs and whist drives, community buildings have seen a rise in activities such as exercise and keep fit classes.

ACRE has produced a new guide 'Entertainment in Community buildings' which steers management committees through the rules and regulations on licensing, music, copyright, cinema, events and more. It is available from Community Lincs Facilities Adviser Samantha Smith, free of charge for members or a small fee for non-members.

The main piece of legislation

affected by the changes is the Licensing Act 2003, which introduced a single system to regulate the provision of entertainment to the public (or in private where a charge is made with a view to profit), the sale or supply of alcohol, and the provision of late-night refreshment.

ACRE campaigned for changes to this legislation, significantly bringing about the introduction of the Legislative Reform (Supervision of alcohol sales in community buildings) Order 2009.

The Government recently made further significant changes to entertainment licensing in line with its policy to remove unnecessary regulations and burdens on the voluntary sector and business, and in particular to cut red tape to encourage the performance of live music.

Samantha said: "It's great news that the government has reduced the red tape that takes up so much time for the 80,000 volunteers who run England's community buildings.

"Community buildings play an increasingly important role in our communities, serving as a social centre, arts centre, sports centre and, in some cases, providing space for doctors' surgeries or shops.

"They are often the hub of community activity providing a space for groups and services that otherwise wouldn't exist and especially valued by older people, who can be isolated

in rural communities with no transport.

"We hope changes in legislation will encourage more halls to put on entertainment that brings communities together."

The changes mean:

- the requirement to renew personal licences has been abolished with effect from 1 April 2015
- the requirement to report lost or stolen licences to the police before applying for duplicates will be abolished with effect from 26 May 2015
- the limit on the number of temporary events that can be held at single premises will increase from 12 to 15 per year from 1 January 2016

The National Rural Touring Forum (NRTF), which represents touring schemes and arts development agencies that help local people to promote events in rural venues, has welcomed the reduction in red tape.

NRTF Development Director Ralph Lister said: "Community buildings play an invaluable role in facilitating arts events in rural communities and any relaxation of current legislation is to be welcomed."

For more information please contact Samantha on 01529 302466 or email samantha.smith@communitylincs.com.

Market Deeping toilets refurbishment

Market Deeping's public toilets are set to be refurbished.

Work began on April 27 for the new look facilities adjacent to the town hall on Horsegate.

A single toilet will be open to the public at the site for the duration of the works which should be completed by June 18.

Leave bags and bins out on time

SKDC is appealing to residents to follow rules around the times bins and bags are left out for collection.

All residents need to leave their waste on the edge of their properties by 7.30am on the day of collection.

Those living in flats and multi occupancy properties should leave bins and bags out no earlier than the evening before the scheduled time to avoid leaving waste in doors and alleyways that can attract vermin.

Residents should check www.southkesteven.gov.uk/recyclinglist for the latest items they can deposit in silver bins or clear bags which means food waste can be kept to a minimum.

SKDC's executive manager for environment Ian Yates said: "Putting bags and bins out at the correct times helps benefit everyone and makes homes, residences and streets look cleaner."

