

A winter scene featuring a large tree with branches heavily laden with snow. The sky is a clear, pale blue. In the foreground, there is a layer of snow on the ground. The overall atmosphere is serene and cold.

Grapevine

Langtoft
February 2025

Contacts.

Church

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Clubs & Groups

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Editor's Welcome.

Welcome to our first edition of 2025.

I'm pleased to advise following your feedback late last year the Grapevine will be printed and delivered to every home in Langtoft on a bimonthly basis this year. We will also continue to post on the Parish council website Langtoft.parish.lincolnshire.gov.uk

If you are a business and wish to advertise in our village magazine, please reach out to the

Parish Council clerk clerk@langtoftparishcouncil.org

Regards

Langtoft Parish Council

Parish News

With 2025 off to a great start we would like to pause and thank all our businesses and village volunteers for helping make 2024 a great year for connecting, supporting one another and celebrating key annual events.

On May 8th the country will recognize the 80th anniversary of VE day with a theme of 'Lamplight of Peace'. As a village we are planning to celebrate this pivotal day in our modern history. If you would like to join the organizing committee and/or offer your services as a volunteer, please reach out to our Parish Council Clerk. More detail to follow in Grapevines April's edition.

A main area of accountability as your Parish Council is to set the annual budget request from the County Council. This has been prepared and submitted. In the April Grapevine edition we will communicate the budget, rationale for expenditure and our annual plan.

Parish council meetings have been scheduled for the year and will be communicated along with the agendas and minutes on our website and village notice boards. As always an open invitation to come along to the meetings.

Regards

Langtoft Parish Council

DEADLINE FOR NEXT EDITION IS 14th March 2025

*All content to be sent to Graytones Printers: mail@graytones-printers.co.uk
Articles may have to be edited and do not express the views of editorial team.*

Please send files as pdfs and named for which organisation ,club or event.

Correct at point of going to press.

*If you would like to advertise your business please contact
Clerk@langtoftparishcouncil.org*

District News.

From your SK District Councillors

Clr Vanessa Smith

Vanessa.smith@southkesteven.gov.uk

07474 874895

Clr Rosemary Trollope-Bellew

Clrr.trollopebellew@southkesteven.gov.uk

01778 560534



Dear Residents,

The start of the New Year, it is time to take stock, reflect on what has been achieved and look forward to new beginnings.

For both Rosemary and I it is a privilege and a pleasure to be your elected representatives at the District Council. However, we recognise, that things are set to change. Just before Christmas the Labour government announced that there was going to be significant restructuring within local democracy. Initially, this is going to mean the election of a Mayor of Lincolnshire in May of this year. Following this, it is likely that County and District councils will be dissolved, and a new unitary authority will take their place. However, much of the detail is still unclear. For now, we will continue to work hard in our District Council roles, representing you on the issues that are within our control.

As previously outlined District Council is responsible for waste collection, council housing, building applications and a range of other services. However, we also recognise that the county issues of flooding and gravel extraction weigh heavily on the minds of local residents. Although neither of us are your county councillor we will continue to do what we can to support with these issues.

We both attend most Parish Council meetings and are committed to serving the needs of our community and speaking up for residents. If you have any concerns, suggestions, or feedback, please do not hesitate to get in touch. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Vanessa and Rosemary

Charities.

Getting to know your Hyde & Mossop Charity

The Charity of Rev John Mossop and Rachel Hyde has been in existence for a long time. The Rachel Hyde Charity was founded in 1707. This involved four cottages in Sutton St Mary being left to the village, the rents to be used for educational purposes. (Two cottages unaccounted for). The remaining two cottages were sold in 1944 with the money being invested in Treasury Stocks the interest from which was drawn annually.

The Rev. John Mossop Charity was founded in 1833 in which a three-acre field situated along Cross Rd Langtoft was left to the Parishes of Langtoft and Baston. The yearly rent is shared equally between the two villages.

The two Charities were merged in 1892 and registered with the Charity Commission. This new and amalgamated Charity was administered by four Trustees (now 5). The original Trustees in 1892 were the Rev. Henry Holden, Mr Henry Atter (Churchwarden), Mr George Peasgood and Mr Joseph Frank.

The money from the Charity was originally administered on St Thomas's Day. "Books were given as prizes to the children and gifts of cash to the poor and needy"

In the mid 1960's the position held by the Churchwarden was reviewed by the Charity Commission and it was decided the position should be held by two people nominated by the Parish Council, each for a four-year period. The other Trustees, the Vicar and two co-opted residents of Langtoft (each for a five year period), remained the same.

The current Trustees are: Rev Carolyn Bailey, Mrs Debbie Hallam, (Chair) Mrs Velma Denniston, Mrs Joanne Clingo, Mrs Diane Valentine and Mrs Sue Archer. The Clerk is Mrs Yvonne McCulloch.

Nowadays the Charity provides token gifts to the village school leavers (Y6) at the end of the summer term, token gifts to nominated (over 90 years of age) residents of Langtoft at Christmas and to those bereaved.

The money from the original 1944 sale of the cottages is now invested in fixed interest securities via Blackrock Charinco Fund for charities and the field is still let. The Charity has a small regular income from these investments but relies on donations from local organisations to maintain the level of gifts distributed.

Clerk Mrs Y McCulloch, The Barn, 3 West End Langtoft, PE6 9LS. E-mail yvonnemcc11@gmail.com

Date 2024



START YOUR JOURNEY WITH YOGA IN 2025

Whether you are looking to increase flexibility, gently build strength or wanting to relax now is the perfect time to start.

Small friendly mixed ability yoga classes in Langtoft Village Hall.

Tuesdays at 9.30am
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Beginners warmly welcomed

To book contact Sam:
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CONTACT   **TOM RUSSELL TRAINING FOR FURTHER INFORMATION**



V.E. DAY 8TH MAY 1945 ----- V.E.DAY 8TH MAY 2025

2025 marks 80 years since the end of the Second World War with Victory in Europe on 8th May 1945 and Victory over Japan (VJ) Day on 15th August 1945.

The Parish Council are holding an open evening on 13th February starting at 7.00pm in the Village Hall and would like to invite everyone to come along and join in with brainstorming for ideas how we, as a village, can commemorate these momentous anniversaries to ensure that the service and sacrifices of the Second World War generation are always remembered

Refreshments will be available - look forward to seeing you there!



Langtoft Primary School

We are delighted to announce that following a visit from UNICEF UK in November, our school has been reaccruited as a GOLD RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOL. This is a tremendous achievement and a credit to all the children in our school who were proud to demonstrate how the United Nations Convention on the Rights of a Child is woven into our learning and life every day.

As part of our Rights Respecting School agenda, and our wish to work towards the Global Goals for Sustainability, we will be focusing on how we can develop our

environment and increase recycling around school.

OPAL (outdoor play and learning) is now well established in school and we all enjoy busy and exciting playtimes. Favourite activities include: den building, tree climbing, scooters and dressing up. We are always on the look-out and extremely grateful for any donations of any unwanted items which may be destined for the charity shop or to be thrown out. The following are some of our ideas or items we are in need of.



We are also in need of several large bags of bark to go in our trim trail area. If you can help or know of anyone who can provide bark chippings, please do get in touch with the school office 01778 343419 enquiries@langtoft.lincs.sch.uk

Rights Respecting School Committee

Church News.

Letter from the Vicarage

As spring begins to unfold, we are reminded of the beauty of God's creation and His promise of renewal. The days grow longer, and the light returns, awakening the earth from its winter slumber. Buds bloom, birds sing, and the air is filled with a sense of hope and anticipation.

In John 1:5, we read, "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." Just as the dawn of spring breaks through the cold grip of winter, Christ's light pierces through the shadows of our lives, offering us renewal and transformation.

Spring is also a time to recognize the Creator's hand at work. The cycle of life, death, and rebirth in nature mirrors the spiritual renewal God offers to each of us. I am writing this as the gentleness of the new year leaves the business of last year behind. I hope that this new season will inspire us to seek growth, both in faith and in love for one another and to care for ourselves in body mind and spirit. However, I am often reminded that we can't do this alone, we need to care for each other as a community.

My prayer for you all is that with all the possibilities that lie before us, may this springtime fill you with joy, hope, and the assurance of God's eternal promises.

Carolyn



East End Pond – Restoration

As I write this, East End Pond has water to a depth of over 1metre and is covered with a layer of ice.



If you have children, please remind them of the dangers associated with frozen ponds.

- **Ice can be extremely vulnerable even during periods of prolonged cold. Never go onto the ice.**
- **Keep children within reach and teach children not to go onto ice.**
- **Keep dogs on a lead near ice and slippery banks.**

A lifebuoy is now in position alongside the pond to be used in cases of emergency. Hopefully it'll never be needed.



Nature Watch.

Penfield Nature Reserve.

Happy new year to everyone. There has been very little working activity at the reserve due Christmas break and the winter weather, however volunteer activities have just started again with the focus on tidying up and getting ready for spring to arrive.

We held a very successful presentation and photography prize presentation in December. The village hall was full and we received donations of £120 which will go towards bird food and other sundry expenses. Congratulations to the photography prize winners.



One of the last jobs we did last Autumn was to clean out the sand Martin nest box that we built in 2023. Some of the nesting compartments had been visited and there were incomplete nests and abandoned eggs, which we are

told points towards juvenile birds, trying out the nests and hopefully they will return this year and nest properly. Fingers crossed.

The tit boxes that the primary school built in 2022 were a great success all 19 were used and contained nests.

Looking forward to this year we are expecting to start and complete a paved footpath and disabled access from the car park and the formation of a viewing platform overlooking the the bird feeders in February. We are planning visits and volunteering days from various local groups including, Perkins, AtkinsRealis and Deepings Odd-fellows and the Primary School again and we will of course be planning our open day which has been a great success over the past years

Nature Watch.

We are pleased to announce that renowned photographer and wildlife expert Nick Williams is giving a talk at the village hall at 19:30 on Friday 7th March. Tickets priced £7.50 will go on sale soon. Nick's website is www.nick-williams.uk

On a sad note we have had a number of cats dumped at the Reserve. A local cats rescue group have managed to capture them so they are being looked after and re-homed.



One of our volunteers recorded the following birdsong at the Reserve recently: Haw Finch, Buzzard, Greylag Goose, Dunnock, Reed Bunting, Long Tailed Tit, Blue Tit, Great Tit, Chaffinch, Fieldfare, Robin, Kingfisher, Dove, Redwing and a Red Winged Blackbird which is native to North America, so we are not sure if it is lost or not!

It is great to know that through the hard work of the management team and the volunteers that we have been able to create a haven for birds even in this harsh weather.

Continued thanks to the growing number of volunteers who turn out to help with the work on site. We are all of a certain age and would love to encourage younger participation if we can. If any one would like to help out the Penfield team, either as an on site volunteer or as part of the management team, please email clerk@langtoftparishcouncil.org and we will be in touch. On site work parties usually take place on Wednesday mornings from 09:30 to 12:30 and occasionally on Saturdays too. Children under 16 are welcome but must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Andy Hallam

Chair Penfield Management Group

From the Allotment.

Langtoft Allotment and Gardeners Association (LAGA)

Are you a gardener?

Have you got a bit of spare time on your hands?

Do you enjoy growing things?

Do you need to get out of the house?

Do you like fresh fruit and vegetables.....which you have grown?

Could it be a whole family project?

We, on the allotment, have several allotment plots which are available to rent in the spring. Now's your chance to get outside, do a bit of exercise, meet some interesting people, and grow your own fruit and vegetables.

If you are a bit of a beginner there are plenty of folk at the allotment who can offer help and advice to set you on your way.

To join the allotment association, you do not have to live in Langtoft (although priority is given first to people from the village) but a few members are from further afield. To register your interest and have a chat about it contact either the LAGA Chairman – Mike Phillipson on 07967 006769 mikeptramp@aol.com or email the LAGA Secretary Karen Brisbane on brisbane468@btinternet.com



From the Allotment.

TRIALS AND TRIBULATIONS OF ALLOTMENT LIZ - TRYING (VERY HARD) TO GROW MY OWN

The life of an allotmenteer is always equal measures of success and failures but the joy of seeing tiny seeds develop into HUGE fruits and vegetables is quite exhilarating! Who would believe that a seed smaller than the head of a pin would grow into such a robust cabbage or carrot? Also the taste is second to none. They cook in the blink of an eye - new potatoes cool from the earth with skins that just slip off them like tissue paper, carrots - sweet and earthy - like nothing you have tasted from the supermarkets, beans and peas in abundance - grow half a dozen Runner bean plants and you can feed all your neighbours as they relish being cropped!

I only have half an allotment which I took on in 2024 and it is more than enough for me. On this patch of land I have a little shed (ideal for a sneaky G&T with my neighbours, when they provide the Gin I'll get the Tonic!) a Poly tunnel and 9 beds plus some open ground for potatoes, legumes, squashes and a special area being prepared for the most wonderful of all Spring veggies - Asparagus! 9 Crowns will be with me at the end of February and they will be lovingly placed in well prepared and manured soil. This most wonderful food will not be cropped in 2025 but by 2026 it will be ready for minimal harvesting.

I rotate my beds so that the soil does not get tired or infected and really try not to use pesticides but sadly the Whitefly this year have been a real problem and my tenderly nursed brussel sprouts were alive with the darn things even in December. Plus I think a sly Muntjac got into the allotment and nibbled a lot of them so they looked rather tatty to say the least. Despite this I harvested them and off they went to my daughters for Christmas Day and were polished off! Its a bit like don't judge a book by its cover!

Now January is upon us and its time to peruse the seed catalogues! It is also time to start the Spring preparation - now this is the dodgy time to me! I don't deep dig but even surface digging aka Bob Flowerdew causes me to collect mud on my wellies that increases my height by 12" or more it would seem! I have always wanted to be a 6 footer but solid earth and mud is not a good look!

Soon the daylight hours will slowly increase, things are a stirring underground! Rhubarb will soon appear from what looks like dead tree stumps, fresh green shoots of wait for it - WEEDS! Now the battle is on - weeds are only flowers in the wrong place we are told - well that might be the case but not on my patch please! Even though one of the most common weeds - the Dandelion- is extremely good for one. The leaves may be eaten as a salad leaf, the younger the sweeter, the roots can be roasted and used to make Dandelion coffee or tea (Yuk!) and apparently the young leaves make a fantastic nourishing pesto! Whose first up for trying? All in all growing your own is wonderful despite setbacks and failures, being with like minded people who are always so kind and willing to offer advice or help - why not give it a go? You can start small in buckets, pots and even strong bags - you wont regret it when you pick your very first homegrown beauty! Good luck!





Langtoft Bowls Club

We hold a coffee morning at our clubhouse every Wednesday throughout the year between 10.00 and 12.00. Both members and non-members are always welcome to come along for a coffee and a chat. During the bowling season (which runs from mid-April to mid-September) social bowls roll-up sessions can also be enjoyed. You'll find us at the Langtoft Sports Field, off Manor Close, next to the school.

The Club are also holding a Quiz Night on Friday 28 February 2025, starting at 7 p.m. at Langtoft Village Hall. Again, Members and non-members are welcome, so why not join us? Please contact Geoff Tinson for more details, or to enter a team: geoff_tinson@hotmail.com



Clubs.

Langtoft WI

Over the last 100 years, WI members have campaigned on an incredible range of issues, increasing public awareness and bringing about real change. The very first WI resolution was passed in 1918 and called for a 'sufficient supply of convenient and sanitary houses, being of vital importance to women in the country'. In 1922 and 1924, two resolutions were passed calling for an increase in women police. With its roots in rural life, protection of the countryside has always been important to the WI and it was a resolution in 1954 that brought about one of the WI's most significant initiatives. This resolution called for a campaign to 'preserve the countryside against desecration by litter,' and subsequently led to the formation of the Keep Britain Tidy group. The WI was one of the several organisations who founded the Fairtrade Foundation in 1992.

In May 2023, the WI launched its Clean Rivers campaign to clean up rivers and promote bathing water status as a way to achieve this. Water quality in our rivers is shameful. Making, supporting and promoting applications for officially designated bathing sites on appropriate stretches of rivers will be instrumental to the clean-up of rivers as it has proved for water quality improvement at coastal beaches. The WI has joined the River Action UK body and signed its Charter for Rivers, calling on the government to commit to ambitious yet achievable actions for healthy rivers by 2030.

This year there were over 95,000 individual selections cast by WI members and the most popular resolution was Dental Health Matters. There is a chronic shortage of NHS Dentists and people are suffering health issues as a result. The WI calls on the Government to increase investment in the training and retention of dentists and to review the current inadequate NHS contracts to ensure everyone can access an NHS dentist wherever they live. This resolution was put forward to the WI Annual Meeting in May. Source <https://www.thewi.org.uk/campaigns>

Future Meetings

Our meeting on 18th November is an open meeting with a talk by Tim Stubbs, called "Antiques to Inspire". Everyone is welcome to join us. Please see poster in this magazine for further details.

There will be seasonal festivities with bring and share food at our December meeting, on 16th December.

Meetings are held in Langtoft Village Hall and begin at 7.30 pm.

Visitors and new members are always welcome at Langtoft WI. For further information, please call our president, Jean on 01778 345037.

Clubs.

Christmas at Langtoft WI

At our December meeting, we welcomed Jeff Woods, aka Pavanotti(!) Jeff is a professional opera singer from Salford. He started singing on long journeys in the car as a boy. Having had compliments about his singing, he started to take lessons at the age of 32, when he learned to sing in other languages, before applying to Birmingham Conservatoire. He then began to apply for positions in operatic and theatre companies but was not getting a regular income from performing on stage. So he decided to boost his income by adapting the “kissogram” model. At this time, the only opera singer that most people knew was Pavarotti, so he had the idea to make surprise appearances at birthday parties, weddings etc as “Pavanotti”. Since then, Jeff has sung for the Welsh and English National Opera, at Glyndebourne and for the D’Oyly Carte Opera Company. Jeff sang a couple of songs for us, including a wonderful rendition of “If I Were a Rich Man” from Fiddler on the Roof which was, for me, one of the highlights of the year which I will never forget. Jeff now lives in Pinchbeck and makes regular appearances on his friend, Wynne Evans’ radio show. Our usual bring and share buffet and Christmas raffle were also enjoyed by our members and visitors..

Also in December, twenty ladies, partners and guests went to The Cherry House at Werrington, where we had a very nice Christmas lunch. Our thanks go to Jean Street who organised this for us.

Once again we sponsored a Christmas tree at the church, decorated by Jean Street. Our tree included knitted ‘paper’ chains and all decorations were in the WI colours of green and white. WI members, Julie, Olive and Sue, decorated two windows which received many compliments from those attending the bacon butty morning and the evening carol service the next day.



Future Meetings

Our meeting on 17th February features a talk by Second Helpings of Stamford.

On 17th March, we will welcome a speaker from Molcey Mill.

Meetings are held in Langtoft Village Hall and begin at 7.30 pm. Visitors and new members are always welcome at Langtoft WI. For further information, please call our president, Jean on 01778 345037.

Langtoft WI, by Sue Eales

During the winter evenings, it is quite difficult to tear ourselves from the fire and the TV. However, Langtoft WI continues to attract members and visitors to our meetings on the third Monday of each month, thanks to the quality of our speakers; and not to mention the delicious cakes kindly brought along by our members.

Colours of India

Dr Mike Sweetings gave us an interesting presentation in October about his many trips to India, including photographs showing the colourful scenes of the places and people he visited. Mike has visited India as a tourist, businessman, preacher and most recently as Chair of a charity, so has experienced many different aspects of life and culture in this vast country. He explained that he was never allowed to walk anywhere and has ridden camels, elephants, on rickshaws and an electric shuttle. He has not always had the luxury of staying in a hotel and has slept on the ground, on railway station platforms, in hammocks, on rope beds and even standing up. He learned that there is no 'typical' Indian and the people there are very good at assessing each other very quickly – through their language and beliefs, for example. Mike has stopped travelling to India now because all western charities have been banned by the new regime there. He is sad because there is still a lot to do. One concern is the huge epidemic of diabetes in India, due to the introduction of western food containing sugars which can't easily be broken down in the bodies of Indian people. Health education and advice can make a huge difference to people. This was an interesting insight into aspects of India, its people and culture, which go beyond the tourist perspective.

Antiques to Inspire

Tim Stubbs brought along a selection of his favourite antiques to our November meeting and told some funny, warm and sometimes emotional stories about each item, how he obtained it and the local people who generously gave him things. In fact most items he has in his collection have come from people he knew. One lady told him that she wouldn't sell him something that had belonged to her husband as it was priceless to her but then announced that she would give it to him. Tim is captivated by domestic objects that had a purpose and also meant a lot to their owner. Even the most humble of items, such as a trivet, were so treasured that someone had had a name and year engraved onto it. Tim also loves wooden items and he will spend a lot of money to acquire the right pieces. One of his favourite pieces is a wooden grain scoop that once belonged to local man and motor racing legend, Raymond Mays. It is made of one piece of wood, possibly beech, and he paid £300 at an auction for it. Tim is a gifted speaker whose insight into the lives and characters of local people captured everyone's attention. He was able to convey his lifelong love of the history of objects and his passion for collecting them.

You're welcomed to join Langtoft Players



We tread the boards come rain or shine,
Bringing music shows, plays and pantomimes.
Enthusiastic and full of fun,
After fifty years still going strong.

We're looking to find some members new,
And wondering, could that be you?
Come up and see us, don't be shy,
You'll never know until you try.

So many tasks to make the shows right,
It's not just about performing each night.
Front of house cover, costumes to sew,
Scenery to paint, just give it a go.

There's a group for the children too,
Helping the Village make memories anew.
So break a leg, and bring a friend or two,
On stage or off, Langtoft Players needs YOU!!

We meet at Langtoft Village Hall on Tuesday and Thursday
evenings from 7:30pm. For more information visit:

www.langtoftplayers.com • langtoftplayersenq@gmail.com
Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/langtoftplayers •
Instagram: [langtoft_players_am_dram](https://www.instagram.com/langtoft_players_am_dram)

Langtoft Village Hall Management Committee
(Reg. Charity No. 501924)

JIGSAW & BOOK SALE

Sunday 9th February

10am – 1pm

Langtoft Village Hall

**Tea, coffee & bacon butties
on sale during the morning**

Donations of jigsaws & books welcome and can
be dropped off:

- at 53 Truesdale Gardens
- at Elysian Hair Salon, West End
- at the Village Hall on Saturday 8th Feb, 4-5pm



Event contact: Sue Archer 07796 674654

Regular events.

Weekly

Monday	5.30pm – 6.30 pm	Village Hall	Stars of the Future
Monday	7.00pm – 8.00 pm	Village Hall	Pilates (not every week)
Tuesday	9.30am -10.30am	Village Hall	Yoga
Tuesday	1.15pm - 2.15pm	Village Hall	Seatersize
Tuesday	6.00 - 7.00pm	Village Hall	Chris Fit Exercise
Tuesday	7.30pm – 10pm	Village Hall	Langtoft Players
Wednesday	10am – 12 Noon	Bowls Club House	Bowls Coffee Morning
Wednesday	12.30 – 1.30	Village Hall	Texan Two Step
Wednesday	1.30 – 2.30	Village Hall	Texan Two Step
Wednesday	5.30 – 6.30	Village Hall	Texan Two Step
Wednesday	6.45pm - 7.45pm	Village Hall	Yoga
Thursday	7.30pm – 10.00pm	Village Hall	Langtoft Players
Thursday	7.00pm – 8.30pm	Langtof Church	Ness Group Singers
Friday	9.30am - 11.00am	Village Hall	Bumps 2 Four
Saturday	8.30am - 9.30am	Village Hall	Chris Fit Exercise
Saturday	12.00Noon - 2.00pm	Village Hall	Dog Traning

Monthly

1st Monday	10am – 12 Noon	Waggon & Horses	Coffee & Cake Morning
3rd Monday	7.30 pm	Village Hall	WI
1st Thursday	8.30pm	Pub	Quiz night

LET US KNOW ABOUT YOUR EVENTS

Langtoft Business Directory.

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you name they will do it!

07493 003419

Mandmbuild@outlook.com

Langtoft Village Hall Management Committee

Registered Charity No. 501924

THE NUMBERS CLUB DRAW

will take place on the following dates in 2025:

3rd February

3rd March

7th April

5th May

2nd June

7th July

1st August

1st Sept

6th October

3rd November

1st December

and 5th January 2026 (AGM)



JOIN OUR NUMBERS CLUB

**For £12 a year you have the
chance to win £40 every month
with two further prizes of £5**

To join please contact: Mrs Joanne Clingo

26 Cloven Ends, Langtoft, PE6 9LF

email – joclingo@yahoo.co.uk

All monies raised go to help with the running costs of the Hall