

PARTNEY & DALBY NAVIGATOR

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Extending A Warm Welcome

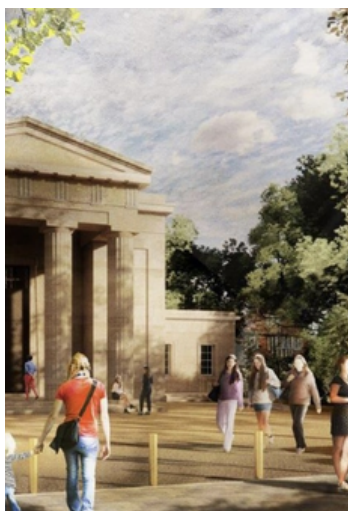
If you have recently moved into Partney or Dalby over the past couple of months we wish you a warm welcome- we sincerely hope you are settling in well and enjoying your new homes. We trust that you find this edition of the village magazine informative, with plenty of details about forthcoming village events.

Over the last couple of weeks there has been glimpses of summer weather, and with any luck, warmer days are just around the corner. It is truly wonderful to witness the countryside around us springing back into life, with gardens beginning to bloom and the evenings growing noticeably lighter. Although this is our spring edition of the Navigator, summer is certainly on its way.

The Annual Parish Meeting

The **Annual Parish Meeting** was held on 12th May at the Victory Hall in Partney. Thank you to all the residents who attended. The meeting provided an opportunity to learn more about not only the Parish Council, but also the many organisations and groups active within the community. It was also a chance for residents to catch up with one another over tea and biscuits - always a good idea!

Bringing People Together: Unlocking Joy at the Sessions House Spilsby



At the **Annual Parish Meeting**, we were delighted to welcome a guest speaker, **Bruce Knight**, from **Sessions Art** in Spilsby. Bruce, who is also a trustee at the Sessions House, gave us an exciting update on the restoration works happening behind the scaffolding at this historic building. You may be aware, that the Sessions House has been fortunate in receiving a variety of grants, including one from Historic England. One of the many developments inside includes the removal of the existing seating in the auditorium with retractable seating installed. This will create a large open space for creative projects. A new cafe is also planned. It was so inspiring to hear that the Sessions House will have a bright future, once all the work has been completed. Bruce informed residents that the Sessions House will celebrate its bicentenary next year and it is hoped that this will coincide with the launch event. The new mission statement for the project is '**Unlocking Joy**' - a positive message for the future!

At the Parish Meeting there were updates from members of the **Parochial Church Council** at **St. Nicholas Church**, as well as from the **Parish Tote**. Jacqueline Oliver, Chair of the Parish Council presented her annual report, highlighting the council's activities over the past year.

Partney and Dalby Parish Council

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A Golden Milestone: 50 years of Parish Service

An important milestone was celebrated at the meeting as Beth Dawson, a councillor for Dalby, was presented with a certificate of appreciation to mark her 50 years of service on the Parish Council. Former Chair of the Council, James Boulton, presented Beth with the certificate along with a beautiful magnolia tree in recognition of her dedication and commitment.



Beth joined the Council in 1976, during the long, hot summer, and has since been re-elected on 12 consecutive occasions- a remarkable achievement reflecting her longstanding service to the community.



The Annual Parish Meeting provides an ideal opportunity for residents to raise questions, share views, and highlight any issues of concern within the community. One matter raised at this year's meeting was the need to ensure that the beck in Partney, is able to flow freely. **Riparian rights** are

the rights and responsibilities of people who own land next to a natural watercourse to keep the beds and banks of the watercourse clear from excessive vegetation, fallen branches or debris that could impede it's flow. Residents are reminded of their responsibilities as **riparian owners** to help keep the beck free- flowing, and therefore reducing the risk of blockage and flooding.

Once again, the need for a safe community space or village green was raised. Residents highlighted the value of having a place where people could meet, socialise, and enjoy a chat together. Identifying a suitable location for such a space has been recognised as one of the Parish Council's future priorities.



Parking throughout the village of Partney was also highlighted as an area of concern, particularly in locations such as Maddison Lane and outside the church, where residents noted on-going issues.



At the **Full Council Meeting**, which followed the Annual Parish Meeting, Jacqueline Oliver was re-elected as Chair, with Mick Lovelock re-elected as Vice-Chair. At the meeting, councillors were joined by **County Councillor Danny Brooke**, whose support is greatly appreciated. Councillor Danny Brookes is the new executive member for the environment at Lincolnshire County Council. One of the key decisions made during the meeting was to seek support from the County Council in obtaining a Speed Indicator Device (SID) to deter speeding motorists. The proposed location for the

device is Dalby Road, an area of particular concern where the speed limit changes from 60mph to 30mph. Councillors highlighted this location as a priority, noting that all other entrances to the village of Partney have a speed limit reductions from 40mph to 30mph, making Dalby Road an exception and a potential road safety concern.



Victory Hall News

Victory Hall - A Hub of Community Activity

The hall has been buzzing with activity over the past few months - April ended on a lovely note with Easter bonnets and a delicious Easter cakes at the **Good Friday Coffee Morning**. April also brought a very special celebration as another 50 year anniversary was celebrated. Ann and Mick Lovelock, two of the hall's trustees, celebrated their Golden Wedding - Congratulations to them both! Ann and Mick would like to thank all who made their anniversary special and their generosity in donating £350 to their favourite charity, **Mill Grove Christian Charitable Trust**, a charity that supports children and families in need.

Needles Up Sewers



A Sewing Workshop was held on 6th May where everyone proudly went home with their very own handmade cushion. Sewers were expertly guided by Sue Sargeant as they were shown how to pipe around the edges of their cushion, put in a zip and sew with precision! Thank you to Sue for sharing her expertise alongside her endless patience! Those who attended have already asked - 'When is the next one?'.

Fashion, Fun and Fundraising



The Greenhouse in Spilsby held their annual fashion show on the 8th May and also helped in raising funds for the Victory Hall. Thank you to all who supported this event. It truly was a wonderful evening, with our fabulous models confidently 'strutting their stuff' on the catwalk. Together the **Sewing Workshop** and **Fashion Show** raised over £400 for the Victory Hall. These funds help the committee continue to organise events for the community, and maintain the building and facilities - more on that below!

Funding Bid Submitted for Hall Improvements

Committee members have been working tirelessly to continue to make improvements at the hall. A big thank you to Liz Hodson who has been working behind the scenes to update policies and procedures- including the fire and health and safety risk assessments. It may not be the most glamorous task, but it is absolutely vital for a public building. An application has also been submitted for a **GRASSroots** grant to fund improvements to the disabled toilet facilities at the hall. Many of you will remember the hall was successful in securing funding for the Ladies and Gents' toilets. The committee's goal is to bring the disabled facilities up to the same standard. The committee and trustees are really keeping all their fingers crossed for another successful application which would allow this next project to go ahead.

The Victory Hall's AGM will be held on **16th June at 6pm** at the hall - everyone is welcome. Refreshments will be provided.



Victoryhall.uk

Growing Together at The Community Garden



The Community Gardeners have begun their new planting season, although the cooler spring weather has meant that their seeds have been a little slower to get going. However, with warmer days on the way they are confident that the seeds will be bursting into life. **The Community Gardeners** meet most Sundays in the garden behind the Victory Hall for some shared gardening, chatting and socialising- and frequent slices of cake!



John's Place is also looking lovely, which the Community Gardeners continue to maintain, alongside the garden area at the front of Partney Primary School. If you have a spare minute please do take the opportunity to visit either garden to take in their peaceful surroundings. Both are wonderful spaces to pause for a moment, listen to the birds, or sit in the sunshine to have a quiet moment of reflection.

Coffee Morning Celebrates Nine Years



The Coffee Morning celebrated its **ninth birthday in April**, marking another wonderful milestone for this much-loved village gathering. Each week the coffee morning welcomes 30 to 35 villagers, who come along to enjoy a chat, tea or coffee, and of course, plenty of cake. Behind the scenes there's a fantastic team of volunteers who help and bake on a rota basis ensuring everything runs smoothly week by week. The team will welcome Brenda Rawlings in June. Brenda already is a frequent baker and will now join the regular group of servers! Thank you Brenda. The team is a friendly and supportive group, always ready to chat and offer help and advice whenever needed. The Parish Council also holds a 'drop in' (Friday prior to the council's full meeting), providing residents with the opportunity to discuss village matters and raise concerns. Occasionally the Coffee Morning community welcomes children from the Primary School- this is always a pleasure. Over the nine years the Coffee Morning has proudly supported a variety of charities and organisations, including St. Barnabas Hospice, Partney School, Partney Community Garden Project and the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. Finally, we would particularly like to extend our sincere thanks to all our customers, helpers and volunteers for their amazing support over the years. Coffee Morning would not be the success it is without you!

Future Events - Place Your Bets!

The Victory Hall's Committee next event will be a **Race Night on 27th June**, with doors opening at **7.00pm** for a **7.30pm start** out of the 'starting stalls'. Tickets are just £5 for a fabulous evening of fun and entertainment. Thank you to all local businesses for sponsoring the races and for owners purchasing their horses. For more information contact 07881315200.



St. Nicholas Church, Partney

St. Nicholas Church: Repairs Progress and Community Events

The year has started very positively regarding our repair work, and we are delighted to report that the roof and tower hatch repairs have now been completed and are looking excellent. More importantly, the church is now water tight! The paperwork for the stonemasons' repairs remains with the Diocese and, once approval is given, the work can begin. The pillar is looking a little sorry for itself at present with the rope cordon around it, we sincerely hope it will soon be restored and looking its best again.

Thank you to everyone who responded to our recent letter and to all those who kindly donated. The support we have received has been overwhelming, and we truly appreciate your help.



Fundraising Events



Our Fundraising continues with a **Bingo Evening on Saturday 30th May**. There are still some places left for this fun evening. Doors open at **5.15pm with eyes down at 6.00pm**. Refreshments will be available throughout the evening and we will also be holding a raffle.

Matthew Flinders History Talk

On **Friday 28th August at 6.30pm** we are excited that **Gillian Dooley** will give a talk on the famous explorer **Matthew Flinders**. Gillian is a Senior Research Fellow at Flinders University and is the co-editor of Matthew Flinders' private journal (2005). Tickets are £8 and will be available soon. Please contact **Jan Oliver** on **0782573536**. Refreshments will be served following the talk, and there will be an opportunity to chat with Gillian.



As the summer approaches, the church opening times have been extended. From now until September, the church will be open **Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 10.00am to 4.00pm**.



If you haven't visited the church before please take the opportunity to call in to enjoy this tranquil, peaceful space. We have a **cuppa table**, you are very welcome to make yourself a drink. We also have a selection of books and cards available to purchase. St. Nicholas Church is an amazing place, with a rich history and it truly deserves to be enjoyed and visited frequently. We also look after our four-legged friends!

If you are out walking with your dog and they are in need of a drink, you will find water available in the porch.



If you would like to visit outside the usual opening times, please just ask- we are always happy to open the church.

Carol -07821 576982, Joe - 07833 702092, Ange- 07803 862787.

Once again thank you for all your support. We could not do this without you. St. Nicholas' PCC



SKEGNESS is SO
IT'S QUICKER BY RAIL BRACING



Adventures with the Jolly Fisherman

As spring gives way to summer, more and more holidaymakers will soon be heading to the East Coast- and in particular, to Skegness. A conversation over coffee at our Friday morning gathering with Angie Jackson (Maddison Lane) got me thinking about the famous seaside image of the **Jolly Fisherman** striding cheerfully across the sands beneath the well-known slogan '**Skegness is SO Bracing**'. Angie has a very special connection with 'Jolly'. Some years ago, she was invited by Lisa Collins, then Skegness Town Centre Manager, to become an ambassador for Skegness. Part of her team was none other than the **Jolly Fisherman mascot** himself!

The Jolly Fisherman

There once was a man whom we know quite well,
Some stories of Skegness, he would not tell.

He fished all the time to earn his pay,
For he knew no other way.
He saw some storms and was in them too,
But he survived them all just like you!

So if you ever feel that your cheeks won't glow,
The Jolly Fisherman will always show,
How he came through with a smile on his face,
And walked Skegness Prom at a steady old pace.

He is the man of Skegness with no regret
And all he wants is a little **RESPECT!**



Angie has begun recalling some of her adventures visiting Skegness attractions and landmarks. She has composed a series of short stories inspired by her many escapades, with Jolly taking centre stage as the hero throughout. Left is a few verses from one of Angie's poems. But how did the image of the Jolly Fisherman come about? He did not begin life as a local character, but as an advertising image created to attract visitors to the Lincolnshire coast and the growing seaside resort of Skegness.

The famous image was created in 1908 by artist **John Hassall**, who had been commissioned by the Great Northern Railway to produce a poster aimed at increasing tourism to Skegness. A display of old postcards and more information is currently available in Skegness Library. The Jolly Fisherman image at the top of the page was created by illustrator **Alastair Sadler** and was specially commissioned to accompany Angie's poems and stories, helping to bring her adventures with the Jolly Fisherman to life.

Just a reminder: Save the Dates!

Fancy something fun and musical? Come along to **Partney Choir's Summer Concert with Rhythm and Steel on Friday 12th June**. Plus raffle and refreshments.

Partney Primary School PTA is looking for craft, food and charity stalls for their **Summer Fair on Friday 17th July**. Please support this event!

